Bengaluru Monday, August 18, 2025 Pages 16 Vol 78 No 229 ₹7

www.deccanherald.com Follow us on @deccanherald

DH

DECCAN HERALD

The Power of Good

European leaders to join Zelenskyy for Trump meeting today

Page 14

News

Astronaut Shukla returns to India to rousing welcome P.5

World P.14

Terence Stamp, Superman villain and 'swinging 60s' icon, dies

State

Rise in microfinance-related suicides P.5

Sports

Calafiori strikes as Arsenal beat Man United P.15

Quickly

Dharmasthala: 'SIT will decide on report'

The SIT probing the alleged mass burials in Dharmasthala will take a decision on whether to submit an interim report or a final report, said Home Minister G Parameshwara. He further said politics should not be brought into the issue.
Details on Page 4

KPCC notice to MLA Shivaganga

The state Congress on Sunday slapped a notice on Channagiri MLA Basavaraj Shivaganga for "embarrassing" the party and creating "confusion" through his comments on the change of CM. The trigger seems to be his comment on Saturday that DK Shivakumar would be the CM in December 2025.
Details on Page 4

Parl session resumes today; no thaw in sign

Parliament's Monsoon Session will resume on Monday after a hiatus but there is no thaw between the government and the Opposition, with the former now listing a discussion on space programme after declining the demand for a debate on the SIR.
Details on Page 10

Sign oath or apologise: EC's 7-day ultimatum to Rahul

Says raising of 'baseless' claims of 'vote theft' an 'insult' to Constitution

SHEMIN JOY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

CEC Gyanesh Kumar (4th from left) with Election Commissioners Sukhbir Singh Sandhu (3rd from left) and Vivek Joshi (3rd from right) and other officials in New Delhi on Sunday. PTI

Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar on Sunday launched a counter attack on Rahul Gandhi's 'vote theft' allegations, saying the Opposition leader has no other option but to submit his claims under oath in seven days or they will be considered "baseless".

In an unprecedented press conference by the Election Commission on a day Rahul launched a 'Voter Adhikar Yatra' in Bihar, Kumar defended the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) in the poll-bound state, saying parties had been asking for purifying electoral rolls.

He also rubbished the allegations of irregularities elsewhere, terming it as an "insult to the Constitution" if such claims are raised late.

Referring to the involvement of around one crore officials, two crore polling agents and ten lakh booth level agents (BLAs) in the Lok Sabha poll process, Kumar also sought to dismiss doubts on the 2024 elections, saying that "how can someone steal votes" in such a scenario and that "neither the EC nor any voter is afraid of such baseless accusations".

"According to law, if errors in the voter list are not reported in time, if an election petition is not filed in the high court within 45 days of a voter choosing their candidate, and then misleading attempts are made to confuse people by using wrong words such as 'vote theft', then what else can this be if not an insult to the Constitution of India?" he said.

Rahul had earlier this month alleged that the election to Bangalore Central Lok Sabha constituency was stolen through around one lakh 'fake voters' in Mahadevapura Assembly segment through five types of manipulation, including duplicate voters, fake and invalid addresses and single-address voters.

Chief Electoral Officers of Karnataka, Maharashtra and Haryana have asked Rahul to file an affidavit under oath but he refused.

"Should the EC issue notice to 1.5 lakh voters without declaration under oath by the complainant...There is no third alternative, an affidavit has to be filed in seven days. Otherwise the claims will be considered baseless and will have to apologise to the country," Kumar said.

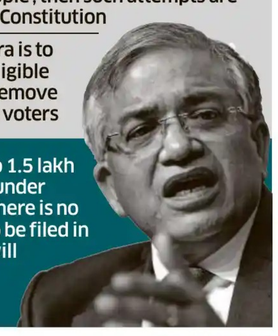
He did not mention Rahul by name or respond to repeated questions about whether the Election Commission would seek an oath from BJP's Anurag Thakur who has also raised similar allegations of vote theft in the seats won by Opposition leaders.

▸ EC, Page 5

CEC's 85-minute presser

EC does not distinguish between the Opposition and the ruling party

- Political parties firing from EC's shoulders
- Neither the EC nor the voters are scared of the allegations of 'vote chori'
- If election petitions are filed late to 'confuse people', then such attempts are insult to the Constitution
- EC's mantra is to include all eligible voters and remove all ineligible voters



"Should the EC issue notice to 1.5 lakh voters without declaration under oath by the complainant? There is no third alternative, an affidavit has to be filed in seven days. Otherwise the claims will be considered baseless
GYANESH KUMAR, CEC

EC claims laughable: Cong

The Opposition on Sunday pounded on the EC, with the Congress claiming that the poll body stood "thoroughly exposed" not only for its "incompetence" but also for its "blatant partisanship". Congress General Secretary (Communications) Jairam Ramesh said the EC's claims were "laughable" in the face of "mountains of evidence to the contrary".
Details on Page 10

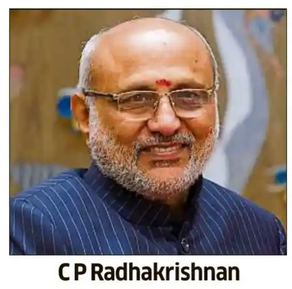
Nation knows EC is 'stealing' polls: Rahul

Embarking on a 1,300 km 'Voter Adhikar Yatra' from Bihar's Sasaram, Rahul Gandhi on Sunday said the whole country knows that the EC is "stealing" elections in collusion with the BJP and asserted that the I.N.D.I.A bloc will not let them "steal" Bihar polls.
Details on Page 10

VP poll: Maharashtra Guv Radhakrishnan is NDA's choice

BJP's move likely based on upcoming TN Assembly polls

AMRITA MADHUKALYA
NEW DELHI, DHNS



C P Radhakrishnan

The BJP on Sunday announced Maharashtra Governor Chandrapuram Ponnusamy Radhakrishnan as the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) candidate for the vice presidential polls.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the party's parliamentary board chaired by PM Narendra Modi.

Radhakrishnan, 68, had earlier served as the Governor of Jharkhand and Telangana and has been a BJP Lok Sabha MP from Coimbatore twice. His candidature seems to be part of the BJP's efforts to woo voters in Tamil Nadu, which is heading to polls next year and where the BJP is yet to make serious inroads.

Radhakrishnan cut his teeth in the RSS and hails from the influential Gounder community. A former chief of the Tamil Nadu BJP, he is credited with growing the party in the communally sensitive city of Coimbatore.

The announcement was made by party president JP Nadda after the meeting, who also said that the decision came after deliberations with both the allies and Opposition parties. "We took the decision after extensive discussions with our NDA partners. The Opposition has said that they will support the nominee depending on who the candidate is. We are hopeful that the VP will be elected by consensus," Nadda told reporters.

Nadda also said that the NDA seeks to secure a unanimous election, and that outreach to Opposition groups is underway to seek broader consensus for the polls.

The BJP will also hold a meeting of its key NDA allies on Tuesday where the PM will make a formal announcement to the alliance partners. The nomination is set to be a show of strength.

▸ VP poll, Page 5

Grassroots to Guv: The rise of CPR, Page 7

Catch-22 situation for DMK

Tamil Nadu's ruling DMK will have to walk a tightrope between Tamil pride and its strident opposition to the BJP-RSS ideology following the NDA's decision to field 'son of the soil' C P Radhakrishnan as its candidate for the VP election. The nomination of Radhakrishnan comes at a time when the BJP is at the receiving end of DMK's attacks.
Details on Page 7

Cloudburst in J&K village kills 7

SRINAGAR, DHNS: Days after a massive cloudburst killed 65 people in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district, another tragedy struck the Union Territory on Sunday when a flash flood triggered by cloudburst claimed seven lives in Kathua district.

The cloudburst occurred during the intervening night of Saturday and Sunday, unleashing torrents of water and mud that swept through farmlands and homes, snapping road links and trapping villagers, officials said.

The aftermath of a cloudburst in Kathua on Sunday. PTI

Officials reached the remote site in the early hours, braving washed-out tracks, to carry out search and rescue operations
Details on Page 7

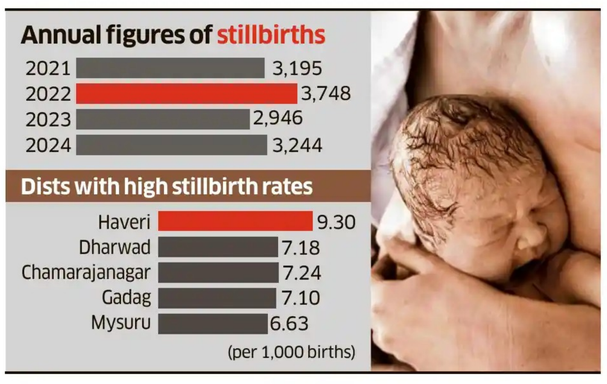
22% fall in VC startup funding

BENGALURU, DHNS: Geopolitics, tariff wars and macroeconomic factors have stolen the wind off the sail for venture capitalists looking at Indian start-ups, according to data presented by market intelligence firm Tracxn venture capital (VC).

Funding in Indian start-ups has shrunk nearly 22% this year (January to August 15) compared to the same period last year.
Details on Page 12

5 districts see rise in stillbirths

SHRINIDHI R
DHARWAD, DHNS



Five districts of Karnataka are seeing a rise in the number of stillbirths, according to government data, which also shows that rates are higher in urban areas than in rural regions.

According to a report by the Health Department, 3.41% (per 1,000 births) of total births in the state are stillbirths, but some districts are recording rates as high as 9.30%, raising concern among health authorities.

Haveri district has the highest stillbirth rate, according to the report, followed by Dharwad, Chamarajanagar, Gadag and Mysuru.

Alarmingly, some districts that earlier had negligible or very low stillbirth rates—such as Mysuru, Chikkamagaluru, Bengaluru Rural, Ballari, and Davangere—have shown a notable increase in the past three to four years.

Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao acknowledged the rise in some districts and said he had sought a report from district health authorities on the matter.

In 2020, Karnataka recorded 9.33 lakh births, of which 3.31% were stillbirths. Of these, 221 cases (2.11%) were from rural areas, while 3,105 cases (5.24%) were from urban areas.

▸ Stillbirths, Page5

With no full-time principals & PE teachers, govt PU colleges reeling

VITTAL SHASTRI
KALABURAGI, DHNS

Government pre-university colleges in Karnataka have been buffeted by multiple crises, with shortage of full-time principals and absence of non-teaching staff and physical education teachers crippling their functioning.

More than half of the total 1,300 government PU colleges in the state were without permanent principals till May this year, a startling fact that exposes the dire state of affairs. This has led to administrative challenges and raised concerns about academic standards.

These colleges are being managed by in-charge principals who are also saddled with additional responsibilities of other colleges. Educationalists contend that these temporary arrangements could result in the misuse of position, examination malpractices and corruption.

All the districts, except Bengaluru North, are reeling under the shortage. Hassan district leads with a shortage of 36 principals, followed by Raichur (34), Koppal (31), Mandya (29) and Bagalkot (27). To rectify the situation, the government promoted 287 lecturers to the post of principals in May and transferred them to 'C' zone colleges in villages from district and taluk headquarters where they were serving. But the remedy backfired badly.

▸ PU colleges, Page 5

PAHARPUR

infinium BLU

Trusted by Experts Worldwide

When experts demand reliable and efficient cooling solutions, they choose Paharpur, a global leader with over 75 years of pioneering experience.

Introducing Infinium[Blu] Closed-Circuit Coolers.

Experience the pinnacle of cooling technology with Infinium[Blu]. Defined by unmatched reliability, cutting-edge efficiency, and future-ready performance, Paharpur's Infinium products set the standard in closed-circuit cooling solutions. For processes where maintaining the purity of your cooling water isn't just important - it's essential - experts choose Infinium[Blu].

Elevate your cooling system. Choose Paharpur Infinium[Blu] today.

Corporate Head Office:
Paharpur House, 8/1/B, Diamond Harbour Road
Kolkata 700 027, India
+91 33 4013 3000
infinium@paharpur.com
www.paharpur.com

Domestic Sales Offices:
Bengaluru | Chennai | Hyderabad
Kolkata | Mumbai | New Delhi | Vodadora

International Offices:
Beijing | Bridgewater | Brussels | Budapest | Izmir | Madrid
Mexico City | Overland Park | Seoul | Stabio | Varese

025-1.2-TPF

SHRINKING HABITAT

Snakebite cases, deaths surge as Karnataka cities expand

AMULLYA SHIVASHANKAR
BENGALURU, DHNS

Dangerous bites

Year	Snakebites	Deaths
2024	13,235	100
2023	6,596	19
2022	3,439	17

Karnataka recorded 13,235 snakebite cases and 100 deaths in 2024, a sharp increase from 6,596 cases and 19 deaths in 2023, and 3,439 cases and 17 deaths in 2022.

The rise has been attributed to habitat loss for snakes and the government's decision to declare snakebite a notifiable disease under the Karnataka Epidemic Diseases Act in 2024.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao provided the data in a reply to MLC S Ravi in the Legislative Council on August 11.

Tumakuru recorded the most deaths with nine people succumbing to snakebites while Hassan saw the highest number of cases at 850.

An urban wildlife specialist and snake rescuer said habitat loss, land encroachments and solid waste management were driving the spike in snakebites.

As cities expand, new residential layouts are coming up on abandoned or forest lands housing snakes. People living there become the vulnerable population, the specialist explained, wishing anonymity.

He said discarded milk covers and coconut shells attract rats. Snakes have the ability to track rats by smell, drawing them into residential areas.

He also noted that many deaths occur from heart attacks even in cases of dry bite.

"People fear snakebites so much that they collapse even before we have time to check the bite," he said.

Dr Raghunandan, Director of Integrated Disease Surveillance Program (IDSP), said cases had risen largely due to better reportage under the Karnataka Epidemic Diseases Act.

Asked about whether there are enough stocks of anti-venom, Dr Shrinivas, also from IDSP, said there were enough stocks in all community, primary and taluk health centres.

Karnataka has 20 taluk-level hospitals and 2,138 primary health centres (PHCs). "In case of a bite, one person may need up to 10 vials of anti-venom," he noted.

According to the WHO, snakebites kill about 45,000 to 60,000 people every year.

Rescuers' plight

The number of snake rescuers in the state is low and they often face FIRs for possessing wildlife after rescuing snakes from private homes. They have urged the government to identify and validate them, and have written to Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre.

The 700-m elevated loop will eliminate the need for police to manually regulate vehicles on the flyover. DH PHOTO/PUSHKAR V

CM to inaugurate Hebbal flyover loop today

BENGALURU, DHNS

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah will inaugurate the 700-metre elevated loop of the Hebbal flyover on Monday.

This is the first major road infrastructure project to be opened by the Congress government more than two years after it came to power in the state.

The elevated loop will provide signal-free travel for vehicles heading towards Mehkri Circle from KR Puram and Nagawara. Although a loop already existed earlier, the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) has widened it from a single lane to two lanes, ensuring uninterrupted movement.

The loop will eliminate the need for traffic police to manually regulate vehicles on the Hebbal flyover, as vehicles from the KR Puram side previously merged with city-bound traffic from the airport.

In the second phase, which is expected to bring greater benefits, the BDA will construct a two-lane loop for vehicles coming from the airport and Kodigehalli side towards the city. This is likely to provide the much-needed relief. Officials expect the work, which is underway, to get over in three months.

However, Hebbal Junction will continue to face congestion, as there is still no signal-free access for vehicles crossing the junction to reach BEL Circle from KR Puram, or vice versa. While there was originally a plan to build an underpass, the government has now proposed a tunnel road, stretching about 2 km.

Strewn debris & charred walls: Locals recount fire horror

Burning plastics made rescue almost impossible: Official

ASHWIN BM
BENGALURU, DHNS

Police inspect the five-storey building in Thigalarpet that caught fire on Saturday. DH PHOTO/ASHWIN BM

The acrid smell of burnt plastic hung in the air on Sunday at Rajanna Lane, Thigalarpet, where a five-storey building fire killed five people in the early hours of Saturday.

The usually busy street fell silent as residents gathered around the charred structure. Debris lay scattered, and smoke-blackened walls bore testimony to the devastation.

"We are still trying to extinguish the smoke. It was so thick that breathing was difficult, and visibility was very low," said Vincent R, assistant fire station officer. Burning plastics made rescue almost impossible. "You cannot even last two minutes inside that building," he added.

The blaze, suspected to have been caused by an electrical short-circuit, started a little after 3 am on the ground floor godown stacked with rubber mats and plastic-wrapped clothes. Five people, including a couple and their two children, died, while 17 others escaped unhurt.

Fire officials said the control room received the distress call at 3.15 am, and five water bowsers were dispatched. "Had we received the information earlier, we could have saved their lives," said an officer.

Locals described scenes of panic. "The fire broke out at the entrance, making it impossible to help those inside. We were helpless," said shopkeeper Fardin. Another shopkeeper, Vicky Jain, commended the swift response of the police and fire personnel.

Relatives of the victims were inconsolable. "I have lived here for 35 years and never seen a fire accident of this scale," said Kanthilal, a family member.

The Halasuru Gate police arrested the building owners — Balakrishnayya Shetty, 68, and Sandeep Shetty, 44 — on charges of culpable homicide not amounting to murder. Their custody has been secured for questioning.

DyCM vows crackdown on weak, illegal structures; asks officials to serve notices

BENGALURU, DHNS: A day after a fire in Nagarathpet killed five people, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar vowed to act against illegal constructions in Bengaluru.

On Sunday, he visited the five-storey building in Thigalarpet and directed officials to identify and serve notices on owners of weak and unscientific structures.

He said many owners had built eight to nine floors instead of the permitted two or three.

"So many buildings are unfit for human habitation. Demolishing them is a different matter. We first need to conduct a survey. It is really scary to look inside these buildings. It has become very difficult to go up the stairs and come down in the congested area," he told reporters outside his residence in Sadashivanagar.

He added: "We will first ensure these buildings are secure. We cannot demolish them immediately, but owners will be asked to repair them. If not, we will take action. Palike officials have been asked to issue notices."

When reporters pointed out that areas like Chickpet and Nagarathpet, though residential, have turned commercial, he said, "This reflects poverty. If we strictly follow fire safety regulations, all such buildings will have to be demolished."

"Many buildings are so poorly constructed that you cannot even access the upper floors. The fire was caused by a short circuit.

"The victims were all from Rajasthan. Regardless of where they are from, they came here to build a life," he said.

He claimed nearly 70% of Bengaluru's buildings are illegal, with owners in new BDA layouts also adding extra floors.

The government, he said, had stopped four lakh water and electricity connections due to the lack of occupancy certificates, in line with a Supreme Court order. "In the Cabinet, we will discuss giving exemptions to 30x40 feet plots with two floors," he added.

Shivakumar said negligent owners would face action. "It is not a one-day task; it will take years. Delhi and Mumbai face similar problems. The government has registered criminal cases against negligent building owners, and the owners of the building where the fire broke out have been arrested," he said.

The government has announced Rs 5 lakh compensation to the families of each victim.

Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar during his visit to the area where the fire broke out. BBMP Chief Commissioner Maheshwar Rao and Police Commissioner Seemant Kumar Singh were present. PHOTO: DCM'S OFFICE

Yellow Line to start at 5 am today

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Yellow Line of Namma Metro will start at 5 am on Monday, instead of the usual 6.30 am, to help people returning to Bengaluru after the long weekend.

The first train from both RV Road and Bommasandra terminal stations will depart at 5 am, Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) said, adding that this special arrangement is only for Monday (August 18).

From Tuesday, train services will begin at the usual time of 6.30 am.

In addition, train services on the Purple and Green lines will continue to begin at 4.15 am on Mondays, as per their earlier schedule.

Over 67,000 visitors at I-Day flower show on penultimate day

BENGALURU, DHNS: Nearly 67,000 people visited the 218th edition of the Independence Day flower show at Lalbagh on Sunday, according to the Horticulture Department.

The show has been themed on freedom fighters Rani Chennamma and Sangolli Rayanna.

A total of 67,310 people visited the event on Sunday, including 52,150 adults, 7,960 children and 7,200 schoolchildren, bringing in Rs 37,39,910 in revenue, said M Jagadeesh, Joint Director (Parks and Gardens).

The flower show will be on till Monday. The timings are 7 am to 7 pm. Ticket prices are Rs 80 on weekdays and Rs 100 on weekends for adults, Rs 30 for students above 12, and free entry for uniformed school students on working days.

IN THE CITY

GENERAL

Punyakshetra Samrakshana Samithi: Panel discussion on 'Conspiracy against Dharmasthala–Myths and truths unveiled'; CT Ravi, Vikas Puttur, Arun Shyam, Jitendra Kundeshwar, Keerthi Shankaraghatta, Vasant Gilyar and Girish Bharadwaj participate; Town Hall, JC Road; 3 pm.

Samanvita: 160th Foundation Day of the Government Museum and book release of 'Bengaluru Sarkari Vastu Sangrahalaya' by Vemagal Somashekar; Udayabhanu Kalasangha, Kempegowdanagar; 5.30 pm.

CULTURAL

Nirdigantha: Play 'Koohu'–A theatrical production by Little Earth School of Theatre; Directed by Arun Lal; Kalagrama, Mallathahalli; 7 pm.

CITY WEATHER

FORECAST

Generally cloudy sky with moderate rain

TEMPERATURES

Maximum	24.6°C
Minimum	20.1°C
Rainfall	0.03mm
Humidity (as of 5:30 pm)	85%
Sunset (Aug 18)	6:40 pm
Sunrise (Aug 19)	6:08 am
Moonrise	12:07 am
Moonset	1:29 pm

(Relevant data recorded at 5.30 pm) Source: IMD

Invites to be published in this column should be sent to: **incitytoday@deccanherald.co.in.** Please note that hard copies will not be accepted

184 'developed' BDA sites up for sale via e-auction

BENGALURU, DHNS

A total of 184 'developed' sites are up for sale as the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) has initiated the process of e-auctioning them this month. It has issued two separate notifications inviting applications from potential buyers.

As per the first notification, which lists 122 'corner or intermediate sites' for sale, the e-auction began on August 11. The sites are being auctioned on an 'as is, where is' basis, with the minimum bid raise fixed in multiples of Rs 500 per square metre. The last date to register interest is August 25, and the live bidding will be held on August 28, 29, and 30.

Some of the locations where sites have been identified include Lingadheeranahalli, Hemmigepura, Valagerehalli, Rachanahalli, Kacharakanahalli, Kothanur, Gollahalli, UM Kaval, Thalaghattapura, BM Kaval, Anjanapura, Sompura, Gubbalala and Chalkere, among others.

Separate notification

In a separate notification issued on Sunday, the BDA announced the e-auction of 59 sites in various layouts. The last date to apply is September 6.

These sites are located in prime localities such as Agara, Dookannalli, Thippasandra, Jakkasandra, Thanisandra, Rachanahalli, Banaswadi and Hennur — areas where land prices are already high.

Citizens can visit the BDA website for details on the application process under the e-auction section.

Conference highlights innovation; launches textbooks & new medical journal

BENGALURU, DHNS: The National MSc Medical Teachers' Association (NMMTA) held its sixth conference — Clinical Scientists on Research in Basic Medical Sciences — on Sunday at Dayananda Sagar College of Engineering.

Industry experts, researchers and delegates discussed the theme 'Omics in Health and Disease', focusing on innovations in genomics, proteomics and related fields to tackle health challenges and improve disease management.

"This conference represents a pivotal opportunity for clinical scientists to bridge basic medical research with real-world health outcomes," said Dr Sukhes Mukherjee, a key organiser.

Two textbooks were released at the event — one authored by Dr Aadam Najeeb, with a chapter by NMMTA General Secretary Dr Ayan Kumar Das, unveiled by Dr HS Nagaraja; and another by Dr Chandrashekhar, released by Dr KS Nagabhushana.

The association also launched its official journal, 'Journal of Foundational Medical Research', open for submissions from medical researchers, said NMMTA president Dr Arjun Maitra.

Borrower's brother plots burglary to recover pledged gold

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Bagalagunte police have recovered 99 grams of stolen gold ornaments worth Rs 9.9 lakh after busting a six-member burglary gang.

Complainant Mangala, a hotel owner from Bagalagunte, told the police that, on July 12, thieves had broken into her rented home by bending the lock and looted gold and cash while she was at work.

Acting on a tip-off, they arrested 43-year-old Venkatesh on July 21, followed by suspected kingpin Krishna alias Mori Raja, 52, on July 23. Three more suspects — Harish alias Appu, 34, Nagaraja alias Devru , 29, and Pratap, 22 — were later arrested.

Investigations revealed that Kavita, 33, who had a loan agreement with Mangala, tipped off her brother Venkatesh about the house.

RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL AVIATION UNIVERSITY
(A Central University)
FURSATGANJ, DIST. AMETHI, UTTAR PRADESH

NOTIFICATION

Sub : Inviting applications for affiliation for the year 2026-2027

The Rajiv Gandhi National Aviation University (RGNAU) invites applications for Affiliation as prescribed in Section 4 of Rajiv Gandhi National Aviation University Act 2013 (No. 26 of 2013) from the Colleges/Management of the Country for the academic year 2026-2027.

The details of the courses offered by RGNAU and application form are available on RGNAU official website https://rgnau.ac.in/en/affiliation.html

The hard copy of application along with the supporting documents and application/affiliation fees to be submitted to the "**Office of the Registrar, Rajiv Gandhi National Aviation University, Fursatganj, Dist. Amethi, Uttar Pradesh - 229302**" within the last date as prescribed in the Schedule-I (Revised) of Affiliation Calendar 2026-2027

Registrar
Rajiv Gandhi National Aviation University

CBC 03110-12-0003-2526

उत्पाद एवं मद्य निषेध विभाग,
झारखंड, राँची।
Lt No. 1551
Dt. 14.08.2025

Notice for Settlement of Retail Liquor Shops in the State of Jharkhand

In continuation of the notification advertised through PR No. 359086 Excise (25-26), regarding the schedule of the e-lottery under the terms and conditions prescribed in "Jharkhand Excise (Settlement & Operation of Retail Shops) 2025", the following schedule for the settlement of "country liquor shops" and "composite shops" for September 2025-March 2030 is hereby again brought to the notice of all concerned.

1. Online Application: Applicants may apply online for the settlement of country liquor shops and composite shops at https://exciselottery.Jharkhand.gov.in (application portal) from August 8, 2025, 11:00 AM to August 20, 2025, 07:00 PM.

2. Fees and Deposits: Applicants can deposit the application fee and earnest money deposit through various methods, including Credit Card, Debit Card, Net Banking, NEFT, RTGS, IMPS, etc. This must be received and verified in the department's account/portal by August 20, 2025, 11:59 PM.

3. E-Lottery Process: The e-lottery will be conducted through a randomization process on August 22, 2025, at 11:00 AM. The link for online telecast of the lottery process shall be available on https://excise.jharkhand.gov.in as well as on the district's website. Furthermore, the online telecast of the e-lottery process will take place at the collectorate offices.

4. Sequence of the E-Lottery: The e-lottery for shops or groups of shops will be conducted in descending order at the state level, based on the fixed minimum guaranteed revenue for the respective shops.

5. Publication of Results: The results of the e-lottery will be published on https://excise.Jharkhand.gov.in as well as on the website of the NIC for the respective districts.

6. Document Submission: Successful bidders must submit self-attested photocopies of all documents along with the original document to the District Excise Office by August 25, 2025.

7. Payment Deadlines: The earnest money deposit and license fee must be paid by the successful bidder no later than August 25, 2025.

8. Shop Location Details: Successful bidders must submit details of an undisputed shop location for the proposed retail shops by August 29, 2025.

9. Excise Transportation Duty: The Advance Excise Transportation Duty (ETD) must also be deposited by the successful bidder by August 29, 2025.

For details regarding the terms and conditions of the sale notification, district-wise details of shops or groups of shops, the e-lottery process, affidavits, etc., please visit (https://exciselottery.jharkhand.gov.in) or the NIC Website of the respective districts.

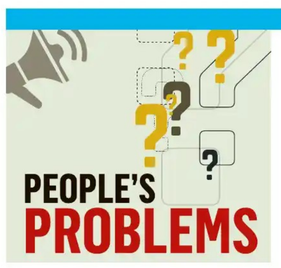
For assistance regarding the e-lottery process, applicants can contact the department help desk or reach out via: General Call: 9430321831, WhatsApp Message: 9508065730, Email: excise.jhr@gmail.com (available from 10 AM to 06 PM daily)

For any banking or payment-related assistance, the following contact details are available: General Call & WhatsApp: 8372059736, General Call: 7766025037 (available from 10 AM to 06 PM daily). Email: prosenjit.das1@hdfc.com and bikram.ghosh@hdfc.com

Please note that the department reserves the right to reschedule the application submission and e-lottery dates.

sd/-
Excise Commissioner
Jharkhand, Ranchi

PR NO: 359676(Excise)/25-26



Need a hand? Write to us

Letters of grievances are pouring in and we are doing our best to accommodate as many as possible. Readers may write in to highlight civic problems affecting their locality and we will help address them in an interactive and effective manner. Grievances and issues related to public utility agencies such as Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB), Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) and Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited (Bescom) would be highlighted in the weekly column. The writeups, which could be accompanied by photographs highlighting the problems, will be published on Mondays. Mail your grievances to: peoplesproblems @deccanherald.co.in

Senior citizen's long wait for ration card

I have moved from Telangana and have been staying at Electronics City, Sampige Nagar, for the last three years.

I have a One Nation One Ration Card, which I presume is valid throughout the country.

I used it to get 20 kg of rice two or three times. But later, I approached ration shops in Chandrapura many times, but have not received the provision, supposedly due to server issues.

I even went to the Anegal taluk office and lodged a complaint with the PM grievance cell, which forwarded it to the grievance cell in Karnataka (to the office of Under Secretary G Uma Devi).

An inspector contacted me and took a complaint, both orally and in writing.

While my Telangana ration card was cancelled, I am yet to receive a new card in Karnataka, despite applying for it.

One official asked me to apply through E-Seva. I applied on January 23, 2025, and was asked to wait for a month.

Ever since, I have been waiting. I go to the Anekal office to check its status and am told that "Your application has been submitted to our office".

I am a senior citizen and have no other income. This ration card means a lot to me because I can apply for senior citizen pension.

R Hariharan
Electronics City Phase II

Metro commuters struggle at Baiyappanahalli

I am writing to draw your attention to the growing inconvenience faced by daily commuters at the Baiyappanahalli metro station during morning peak hours.

Every day, hundreds of passengers are forced to wait in long, slow-moving queues, causing significant delays and frustration. Despite the consistently high footfall, there appears to be a lack of proper crowd management or planning from the metro authorities. The situation is especially challenging for office-goers and students who rely on the metro as a primary mode of transport.

We urge the authorities concerned to take immediate corrective measures such as increasing entry points, deploying more staff or redesigning crowd control processes to ease commuter woes.

Satish C

Daily commuters are inconvenienced during morning peak hours.

Improve BMTC bus service

The BMTC has reduced bus services on route number 201 (Srinagar to Domlur). Commuters have to wait nearly an hour at Indira Nursing Home, and Banashankari is always crowded.

Earlier, there were more bus services, including the AC service (201R), making things easier for senior citizens.

The same problem is with bus routes (215C and 215H), plying between KR Market and Jamboo Savari Dinne. Passengers travelling towards JP Nagar, BK Circle and onwards sometimes wait an hour. There is no air-conditioned bus service at Marenahalli, even though many office-goers frequent this area.

Regarding the KSRTC bus services, there are no proper arrangements at some bus stands.

If one bus arrives, more than 100 people will be waiting to board it. Women and senior citizens cannot board the bus. The arrangements are poor.

I request the transport minister to arrange more buses in public interest and improve frequency where there is high demand.

PS Ramapriyan

Transport minister warns contractors over filthy bus station toilets

BENGALURU, DHNS: Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy has directed officials to issue notices and even cancel contracts of private agencies that fail to keep toilets at bus stations clean.

In a letter dated August 17, he noted that he had received numerous complaints regarding filthy toilets at bus stations, overcharging users and misbehaving with passengers when they raise objections.

He cited the case of a woman passenger, who felt embarrassed by the poor state of the men's toilet near the ticket counter at the Mysuru Road Satellite Bus Station in western Bengaluru.

In response to the complaint, Reddy said a retaining wall had already been constructed. Other corrective measures have also been taken before passengers voiced their concerns.

He warned that private agencies entrusted with toilet maintenance through tendering must fulfill their responsibilities effectively without leaving room for complaints.

Why power infra safety measures only for humans, ask activists

Electrocution deaths of animals on the rise in Bescom jurisdiction

SNEHA RAMESH
BENGALURU, DHNS

> **PRIYA CHETTY RAJAGOPAL**
> Animal welfare activist
>
> "Officials and other citizens respond with concern only when they realise that little children at the same height as poor dogs run an equal risk. Just a few days ago, we saw a dog lying dead inside a transformer enclosure which was kept open.

In 2024-25, as many as 37 animals died owing to electrical accidents under Bescom jurisdiction, data accessed by *DH* shows.

The number of deaths has increased significantly over the years with nearly a 825% increase in a decade and 68% increase in the last five years. In 2014-15, only four such deaths were reported.

However, animal activists and rescuers said the numbers could be underestimated and many deaths may not have been recorded.

Low-height switch boxes

Many streetlights have switch boxes at lower levels, making it dangerous for animals, activists said.

"For dogs, these boxes are at eye level and that is dangerous. None of the officials take animal deaths seriously. Hence, they fail to lay the infrastructure keeping them in mind. While humans can be careful when they see dangerous wires, animals may just step on to them, leading to deaths," said Priya Chetty Rajagopal, animal welfare activist.

Transformers sans enclosures

Open transformers without enclosures and poor earthing to power infrastructure result in accidents, she said.

"Officials and other citizens respond with concern only when they realise that little children at the same height as poor dogs run an equal risk. Just a few days ago, we saw a dog lying dead inside a transformer enclosure which was kept open". Live wires and faulty lines are a major problem which result in the death of many birds, rescuers said.

"We get alerts about many such cases. In many instances, by the time we reach the spot, the animals are dead. This is especially the case with birds," said Jayanthi Kallam, executive director of Avian and Reptile Rehabilitation Centre.

Mostly in rural areas

Bescom officials said such cases were mostly reported from rural areas and the numbers were very less in urban areas.

"In rural areas, animals sometimes step on to live wires while grazing, resulting in electrocution. It is not very common in cities," a senior Bescom official said.

Electrocution of goats and sheep is usually reported from rural areas, the official said.

While rescuers said there was not much Bescom could do, activists urged the agency to ensure few basic safety measures related to height of switch boxes and to include enclosures to power infrastructure wherever possible.

UDD rejects proposal to widen road at Bamboo Bazaar metro station

NAVEEN MENEZES
BENGALURU, DHNS

The Urban Development Department (UDD) has rejected Namma Metro's proposal to widen three roads leading to the under-construction underground metro station at Bamboo Bazaar in Shivajinagar.

This puts the onus on the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to ensure proper accessibility, as the roads around the station, located in a densely populated area, are already very narrow.

In its proposal, Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. (BMRCL) had suggested widening AM Road, Dhanakoti Road and Bamboo Bazaar Road, which connect to the station. Among the three, AM Road was identified as a priority since the BMRCL plans to construct a foot overbridge (FOB) linking the metro station with the Cantonment railway station, located some distance away.

Namma Metro had sought Rs 41.36 crore to acquire land and widen the area around the Bamboo Bazaar station. However, during a recent high-powered committee meeting — where senior officials were present to expedite metro projects — BMRCL authorities informed that the UDD had declined to release the additional funds.

For now, the BMRCL plans to acquire land just outside the underground metro station without widening the entire lane.

As a result, the BMRCL will be compelled to build the FOB on the existing narrow road without widening it. Given the limited width and huge traffic movement, metro officials insisted that road expansion is needed in the interest of both metro commuters and local traffic. For now, the BMRCL plans to acquire land just outside the underground metro station without widening the entire lane.

As part of this proposal, metro officials have started land acquisition near Entry 'C' of the station to improve approaches from Bamboo Bazaar Road. They will also acquire another 218.674 sqm of land from the ESI building to widen Dhanakoti Road and 332.104 sqm from the Madeena Masjid premises.

While the Karnataka Industrial Area Development Board (KIADB) will issue the notification for acquisition, officials admitted that this alone will not significantly ease local traffic congestion.

BYV slams Hariprasad for equating RSS with Taliban

BENGALURU, DHNS: Senior Congressman B K Hariprasad's comments equating RSS with Taliban triggered an intense ideological slugfest on Sunday between him and BJP state president B Y Vijayendra.

Vijayendra

Hariprasad

Hariprasad's comment on Saturday came after PM Modi claimed in his Independence Day speech that the RSS was the "world's biggest NGO".

Taking to X (formerly Twitter), Vijayendra slammed Hariprasad's comment and said it exposed latter's "ignorance" of history.

"For nearly a century, RSS has stood as one of the strongest pillars of social service in this nation. When floods devastated Karnataka's Kodagu and Karavali regions in 2018, when Kerala and Uttarakhand faced deluges, swayamsevaks were on the ground".

Claiming that the RSS was rooted in "discipline, patriotism and service," he said it was "shameful" to compare the RSS with a terror outfit like Taliban.

"If Hariprasad cannot see the difference between a service-driven nationalist organisation and a barbaric extremist group, problem lies not with RSS but with his own political blinkers."

In a strong rebuttal on X, Hariprasad claimed he knew not only "depth and breadth of RSS, but also its perimeter".

"A socially divisive organisation like RSS, which is destroying social harmony and filling people with opium of religion, is more dangerous than Taliban. Before you give an account of the social service of RSS in 100 years, do you know the account of the anti-social activities by Sangh? Social service is just the face, behind which there are masks of countless unconstitutional activities.

"Is it a cultural organisation? Social organisation? Publicly funded? A gang of cadres with a hidden political agenda? Or, is it just a Hindu organisation?"

Accusing the Sangh of claiming that "Hindus are one" but also "practicing" the chaturvarna system, Hariprasad said he knew the "hidden agenda" of RSS.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN UAE

EDITOR

Gulf Expatriate Magazine launching soon

Gulf Education Magazine launching soon

Launching soon, Gulf Expatriate Magazine & Gulf Education Magazine shall be positioned as a premium platform providing valuable content for the expatriates based in Gulf, showcasing cultural experiences and practical advice, fostering a thriving community.

Qualifications:
- Bachelor's degree in Mass Media or equivalent,
- Experience in editing and managing editorial teams,
- Exceptional writing, Gulf region knowledge, strong organizational skills & creative thinking.
- Individual possesses 3-5 years of editorial experience.

Key Responsibilities:
- Shaping the magazine's editorial direction, managing editorial calendars and production processes
- Proofreading articles, collaborating with designers and photographers, staying updated on Gulf region trends
- Fostering a creative culture to achieve excellence
- Coordinate with sales team for revenue generation & sustainability

THUMBAY MEDIA
INNOVATION • IDEAS • COMMUNICATION

THUMBAY
GROWTH THROUGH INNOVATION

Interested candidates may apply to the HR Department: careers@thumbay.com

www.thumbaymedia.com, www.thumbay.com

KARNATAKA STATE ROAD SAFETY AUTHORITY

Speed is not the priority:
Follow the speed limits.

Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Sri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister

A 24-year-old son died in a road crash as he was speeding on his motorcycle. His wife also succumbed to death due to the unbearable grief of losing her only son. The man who lost his son and wife suggests everyone: "Even if it's a bit late, drive slowly and reach safely." Protect your family from road tragedies.

Overspeeding is a punishable offense under Section 183 of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

Sri K Ramalinga Reddy
Hon'ble Minister for Transport & Muzrai at a departmental programme.

A momentary lapse can lead to a life changing trauma for you and your family.
Drive responsibly and follow the speed limits.

Protecting public property and refraining from violence
A constitutional fundamental duty of every Indian

SLOW DOWN FOLLOW THE SPEED LIMIT

Govt supporting 'urban naxals': Ashoka

HUBBALLI, DHNS

Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly R Ashoka has said that the state government has been supporting "urban naxals" with communist ideology spreading false propaganda against Hinduism and temples. He accused the Congress of attempting to tarnish the image of Dharmasthala.

"We have never opposed a probe into the Soujanya case or the SIT investigation. But it is objectionable that the chief minister orders an SIT probe merely based on someone's allegation. It is becoming evident that the Congress government is behind this case. We will raise this issue in the Assembly," he said.

"Every day, hundreds of petitions are submitted by the public and organisations demanding CBI or SIT probes. Even opposition members in the Assembly demand investigations. Does that mean every such demand will automatically be handed over for investigation? Siddaramaiah is supporting a gang driven by Tipu's ideology and fanatic mindset," the opposition leader added.

Speaking to reporters in Chitradurga, Ashoka said that he will also conduct a "Dharmasthala Chalo" rally after the conclusion of Assembly session.

Dharmasthala debate: HM to lead govt's reply today

BENGALURU, DHNS: Home Minister G Parameshwara will spearhead the government's reply on the alleged mass burials in Dharmasthala in the Assembly on Monday.

On Friday, BJP's Karkala MLA V Sunil Kumar initiated a debate on the Dharmasthala issue, in which Leader of the Opposition R Ashoka and other party MLAs like S Suresh Kumar, S R Vishwanath and Harish Poonja had participated.

While Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar told reporters on Friday that there had been a "massive conspiracy" to malign Dharmasthala, Parameshwara had claimed that action would be taken against the complainant if his claims were found to be false.

Govt failed to check 'smear campaign' on Dharmasthala: BYV

'Sentiments of devotees hurt, CM owes apology'

NAINA J A
MANGALURU, DHNS

Karnataka BJP president B Y Vijayendra has accused the state government of failing to check the "smear campaign" against Sri Kshetra Dharmasthala Manjunatha Swamy Temple.

A delegation of the BJP leaders including elected representatives of the party met Dharmadhikari D Veerendra Heggade in Dharmasthala on Sunday.

Speaking to the media, Vijayendra accused the state government of failing to contain the "misinformation and defamatory" campaign against the Dharmasthala Temple.

He said the government should have acted promptly against smear campaign, especially at a time when the SIT investigation into the mass burial case was underway.

"We welcomed the formation of SIT in the hope that a transparent probe would bring out the truth. But, even as the investigation is in progress, attempts are being made to spread confusion and tarnish the image of the temple, thereby hurting the sentiments of crores of devotees across the state," he said.

Vijayendra demanded that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah should tender an apology to the people for the government's failure to curb the campaign, stressing that conspiracies targeting the religious shrine would not be tolerated.

He pointed out that Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar had admitted in the Assembly to a "big conspiracy."

"If that is the case, both Shivakumar and the government must reveal the details of the conspiracy to the people," Vijayendra added.

Responding to Minister Eshwar Khandre's claim that the BJP was behind the controversy, Vijayendra said, "The BJP is not politicising the issue of Dharmasthala. The government must investigate those who are actually behind the smear campaign and identify the forces supporting such actions."

He further noted that Dakshina Kannada district in-charge minister Dinesh Gundu Rao had admitted that the SIT was formed following pressure from Leftist organisations.

"If this is true, it should also be investigated. I am not here to dictate how the probe should be conducted, but I have demanded that the government release an interim report on the ongoing SIT investigation," he said.

MLCs C T Ravi, Chalavadi Narayanaswamy, Prathap Simha Nayak, Dr Dhananjaya Sarji and Kishore Kumar, Dakshina Kannada Lok Sabha member Capt Brijesh Chowta, and MLAs Vedavyas Kamath, Harish Poonja, Bhagirathi Murulya, Umanath Kotian, Bharath Shetty, Yashpal Suvarna, and others accompanied Vijayendra.

A delegation of BJP leaders led by its state president B Y Vijayendra meets Dharmadhikari D Veerendra Heggade at Dharmasthala on Sunday.

SIT to decide on interim report: HM

Home Minister G Parameshwara has said the Special Investigation Team (SIT) will take a decision on whether to submit an interim report or a final report in the Dharmasthala case.

Speaking to reporters in Gundlupet, Chamarajanagar district, on Sunday, he said, "Dharmasthala mass burial allegation case is a legal issue. It is the duty of the police to conduct a probe if a complaint is lodged. The case should not be given a political colour. The truth will come out if the SIT probe is completed. The government will not interfere in the investigation and has not given any directions in the case".

To a query, Parameshwara said, "It is not possible to dig at all the places identified by the complainant. I will respond to the BJP's 'Dharmasthala Chalo' in the session".

Notice slapped on Channagiri MLA for comments on 'change of CM'

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee on Sunday slapped a notice on Channagiri MLA Basavaraj Shivaganga for creating "confusion" and "embarrassment" to the party through his comments on the 'change of chief minister.'

"Your public comments have embarrassed the party and are a violation of party discipline. The KPCC discipline enforcement committee has seriously taken note of your indisciplined comments. You are directed to provide your explanation within seven days of receiving this notice," the notice by the discipline enforcement committee said.

Though Shivaganga has repeatedly claimed that Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar will soon be the chief minister, the trigger for the notice seems to be his comment on Saturday that Shivakumar will be the CM in December 2025.

The notice to Shivaganga comes more than a month after a similar notice was served to Ramanagara MLA Iqbal Hussain for similar comments. Hussain is also a known Shivakumar loyalist.

Ever since the Congress assumed power in the state in May 2023, there have been fights between the supporters of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar. Incidentally, the notice comes less than a week after senior leader K N Rajanna was sacked from the Cabinet due to his controversial comments about "vote theft" allegations by top Congress leader Rahul Gandhi.

Rajanna is a known Siddaramaiah loyalist and has openly spoken against Shivakumar's camp on numerous occasions.

President Droupadi Murmu to visit Mysuru on September 1

MYSURU, DHNS: President of India Droupadi Murmu will be arriving in Mysuru on September 1. She will participate in the diamond jubilee celebrations of the All India Institute of Speech and Hearing (AIISH) at Manasagangotri here.

AIISH Director M Pushpavathi said that official information has been received about President Murmu's participation in the event.

This will be the President's second visit to Mysuru. She launched Nada Habba Dasara on September 26, in 2022. President Draoupadi Murmu will reach Bengaluru and will arrive in a special aircraft at the Mysuru airport.

Droupadi Murmu

In the wake of the President's visit, Deputy Commissioner G Lakshmikanth Reddy held a preliminary meeting. He has directed the authorities that there should not be security lapses during her visit.

Cong MLA's video on money distribution in LS polls: Siroya seeks EC probe

BJP Rajya Sabha member calls Rahul's allegations on 'vote theft' wild

NEW DELHI, DHNS

LAHAR SINGH SIROYA
Rajya Sabha member

"The fact that Rahul Gandhi makes wild allegations without worrying about what his party and partymen are all about, is proof that he is desperately trying to remain relevant in the Indian political landscape.

Rajya Sabha member Lahar Singh Siroya of the BJP on Sunday urged the Election Commission of India (ECI) to probe an audio clip allegedly featuring Arasikere Congress MLA Shivalinge Gowda, who claimed that money was distributed in Hassan Lok Sabha constituency for the victory of Congress candidate Shreyas Patel during the 2024 elections.

"Now, there is another audio making rounds. In this explosive audio clip, a sitting Congress MLA from Hassan district, Shivalinge Gowda, is heard speaking, apparently to a Congress Rajya Sabha MP, on how much money should be distributed per voter in the Hassan parliamentary seat to ensure their candidate's victory. This was in connection with the 2024 Lok Sabha polls," Singh posted on 'X,' tagging the Election Commission.

Siroya said the irony was that Congress leader Rahul Gandhi had been alleging 'vote chori,' while his own partymen were past masters in the 'vote chori' game, he said.

"The fact that Rahul Gandhi makes wild allegations without worrying about what his party and partymen are all about, is proof that he is desperately trying to remain relevant in the Indian political landscape. He does not realise that Congress is left with little or no credibility," the MP said.

The RS member has said in his 'X' post that he has not independently verified the authenticity of Shivalinge Gowda's audio.

He urged the ECI to take note of this audio and investigate it alongside his earlier complaint.

Singh had recently written to the poll panel, demanding that a probe be conducted into former union minister C M Ibrahim's statement that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had purchased 3,000 votes in Badami segment in the 2018 Assembly elections to ensure his victory.

Savarkar, not Cong, first propagated partition idea, says Priyank

BENGALURU, DHNS

Taking strong exception to NCERT's new module that blames the Congress for the country's partition, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (RDPR) Minister Priyank Kharge in his post on X, asserted that the idea was first proposed not by Muhammad Ali Jinnah, but by Vinayak Damodar Savarkar.

Kharge's post took aim at BJP's version of nationalism, accusing it of ignoring what he called the ideological roots of Partition within Sangh Parivar.

"The idea of Two Nations was first floated by 'Veer' Savarkar and endorsed by his 'tukde tukde gang,' he wrote.

'Essentials of Hindutva'

Urging followers to "understand the chronology," Kharge cited Savarkar's 1922 book Essentials of Hindutva, where Hindutva was defined not by religion but by the idea of India as both "Fatherland and Holyland".

He pointed to Savarkar's 1937 speech at the Hindu Mahasabha's 19th session in Ahmedabad, where he declared, "There are two antagonistic nations living side by side in India..." There are two nations in the main: the Hindus and the Moslems in India."

Kharge argued that it was only three years later, in 1940, that Jinnah and the All India Muslim League formally adopted the two-nation theory through the Lahore Resolution.

He cited Savarkar's 1943 speech in Nagpur: "I have no quarrel with Mr Jinnah's two-nation theory".

To support his point, Kharge quoted Dr B R Ambedkar: "Strange as it may appear, Mr Savarkar and Mr Jinnah... are in complete agreement... They differ only as regards the terms."

Now, Cong MLA announces rally to temple town

BENGALURU, DHNS: A day after BJP leaders took out a rally from Nelamangala to Dharmasthala, Congress MLA from Nelamangala N Srinivas announced on Sunday that Congress workers would take out a car rally to the temple town to show support for Lord Manjunatha and Dharmadhikari Veerendra Heggade.

Srinivas told reporters that the Congress rally was planned after the monsoon session of the legislature.

He accused certain groups of spreading false information and running a negative campaign against Dharmasthala, its deity and the Dharmadhikari.

DH Classifieds

BUSINESS

Business Offers

Finance

MSME LOANS
Available for Any Startup Companies,Any Existing Companies NOTE:Also One Approved Loan Available Contact-7204995189

BUILDERS ESSENTIAL

Water Proofing

LEAKAGE... LEAKAGE... Old/New Building, Sump, Bathroom, Wallcrack, Skylight, Terrace Waterproofing done by New Technology-9880916988

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

General

REQUIRED IMMEDIATELY Communication Skilled MANAGERS, LADY EXECUTIVES. MARKETING EXECUTIVES. Good Salary. Walkin V&V GROUP, Behind IIMB, Bannerghatta Road: 99000-54462

Teachers/ Professors

WANTED BE / Diploma in Electrical, Electronics, Mechanical, Computer science, to take part time / Full time Diploma Day & Evening classes. Contact personally with resume, original documents. Nadgir Institute Near Modi Hospital Rajajinagar Bangalore – 560010. Ph: 23387333, 8867065525, 9731721446

PERSONAL

Change of Name

I, SMT.JAYA NAVANEETHAN alias SMT.JAYALAKSHMI NAVNEETHAN, W/o Mr.N.R.Navaneethan, age 87 years, R/at No.1151, Kumba, 22nd Cross, 22nd B Main, Sector 2, HSR Layout, Bangalore-560102 do hereby declare that both names i.e. SMT.JAYA NAVANEETHAN and SMT.JAYALAKSHMI NAVNEETHAN are one and same and refers to myself, vide affidavit dated 12.08.2025, sworn before Advocate/Notary UDAY KARIYAPPA.B.G, Bangalore.

DH Classifieds More value, more impact — NAME CHANGE — ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ
@50/-* PER WORDS
Book your Name Change Ad in DH All Karnataka + Prajavani Bengaluru City All Days
www.dhclassifieds.com
BOOK NOW
For more details contact:
+91 7795158424
+91 9731810277 | +91 9900428036
*Conditions apply

DH DECCAN HERALD
Obituaries & Remembrance Advertisements
Log on to : https://homages.deccanherald.com or
Scan QR code to access booking form

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

SMT. REETA THANKAPPAN
(04.03.1952 - 18.08.2024)
Owner & Co-founder of Chakkolathkavu Sri. Bhuvaneswari Kshetram Trust S. Paravur, Ernakulam

"Your presence is deeply missed, but your love continues to surround us. We cherish your patience, compassion & kindness, and honor the beauty of your spirit, today and always."

Monday 18-08-2025
1st Death Anniversary

Remembered by:
Advocate E. K. Thankappan, Relatives & Friends

IN FOND REMEMBRANCE OF

Sri. S.V. RANGASWAMY
Our Founder and Guiding Spirit
From: The Directors and Staff Members of:
S.V. Rangaswamy and Co. Pvt. Ltd.,
Karnataka Insecticides and Fungicides Pvt. Ltd.,
And Family Members

RESPECTFUL HOMAGE
To Immortal Humanitarian
PUNYASMARANE : 18-08-2025

Late Sri C.M. NAGARAJ
BORN : 09-03-1942 | EXPIRED : 18-08-2008
FOUNDER CHAIRMAN, EAST WEST INSTITUTIONS
FORMER MAYOR, B.B.M.P.
A GREAT LEADER, PIONEER, VISIONARY, EDUCATIONALIST, PHILANTHROPIST & INSPIRER.
We earnestly pray God to rest his soul in peace.
Family Members, Management, Principals, Staff Members, Students, Relatives & Friends.

Heavy rain in C'magaluru, holiday for schools today

CHIKKAMAGALURU, DHNS

Heavy rains lashed Malnad area in Chikkamagaluru throwing normal life out of gear on Sunday.

Incessant rain has been lashing Kudremukh area and river Tunga is in spate. River overflowed on Gandhi Maidan in Sringeri town. As a result, parking area remained submerged, thus affecting the parked vehicles.

Paddy fields, plantations have remained under water. Farmers are fearing loss of crops. Owing to the heavy rainfall, vehicle users were inconvenienced while driving on Charmadi Ghat.

The district administration has declared holiday for schools and anganwadi centres in five taluks of Mudigere, Kalasa, Koppa, Sringeri, Narasimharajapura, five hoblis in Chikkamagaluru taluk on Monday.

Sringeri taluk received 132 mm rainfall in the last 24 hours. While, Kigga received 152.8 mm and Kerekatte received 154 mm rainfall.

Due to the heavy downpour, National Highway 169 connecting Sringeri and Mangaluru has been submerged at Nemmar, bringing traffic to a halt.

The Bharatiteertha Road in Sringeri has also been inundated. Similarly, Kurubakeri Road is submerged, with water flooding both sides of the stretch, leaving the middle portion looking like an island.

A view of swollen Tunga river near the Sharadamba temple at Sringeri in Chikkamagaluru district on Sunday.

2-day red alert sounded in U-K

The IMD has sounded red alert till Tuesday indicating heavy rains across Uttara Kannada district for the next two days. The district administration has asked the people in low-lying areas and those on the banks of the river to move to safter places. Tourists have been banned from visiting the beaches, Deputy Commissioner K Lakshmipriya said.

In Shivamogga

Rains intensified in Shivamogga district on Sunday. The inflow into Tunga, Bhadra and Linganamakki dams went up following copious rains in catchment areas. River Tunga is flowing at dangerous level in Shivamogga. Chakra in Hosanagar taluk recorded 21 cm of rain in the 24 hours ending Sunday 8 am. Davangere received intermittent rains throughout the day.

Kalaburagi and Yadgir districts in Kalyana Karnataka received heavy rains on Sunday.

EC gives Rahul 7 days to choose...

EC, from Page 1

Kumar, who was accompanied by Election Commissioners Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Vivek Joshi, said the draft electoral rolls in Bihar after SIR were prepared by booth level officers (BLOs) and booth level agents and to remove anomalies, a month's time has been given and 15 days are still left and "doors of the EC are open to everyone". He said the draft electoral rolls prepared can have discrepancies and that is why a provision for correction is provided.

"On the ground, all voters, parties and BLOs are working together transparently, verifying records, and even providing video testimonials. It is a matter of serious concern that these verified voices of district presidents and BLAs are either not reaching their own state or national leaders, or, ignoring the ground reality, attempts are being made to spread confusion," he claimed.

When asked, Kumar did not provide the number of foreigners or illegal immigrants whose names were found in the voters' list in Bihar but said those identified as foreigners during the SIR will be probed by September 30. He also did not provide the number of people who have submitted the 11 prescribed documents along with enumeration forms during the SIR.

Govt sits up & takes note after big rise in microfin-related suicides

New law aims to curb unethical lending, coercive recoveries

N B HOMBAL
BENGALURU, DHNS

A whopping 38 cases of death by suicide have been reported in the state, linked to harassment by microfinance companies, in the last three years.

According to data presented by Home Minister Dr G Parameshwara in the Legislative Council recently, there were eight suicides in 2023 — including a tragic case where six members of one family in Tumakuru ended their lives.

In 2024, six suicides were reported across various districts, while in 2025, the number rose sharply to 24. The data presented in the House revealed a grim picture of the state's growing microfinance crisis - a sharp rise in harassment cases, arrests and deaths by suicide linked to aggressive loan recovery practices.

Parameshwara presented facts and figures on the alarming trend in response to an unstarred question by Dr Dhananjaya Sarji of the BJP.

In 2023, there were six reported cases pertaining to eight deaths by suicide, leading to nine FIRs and 10 arrests.

The numbers more than tripled in 2024, with 21 cases, six deaths by suicide, 55 FIRs and 59 arrests.

In 2025, the situation worsened dramatically—cases shot up to 105, with 24 deaths by suicide, 228 FIRs and 246 arrests.

Because of the big rise in harassment case and resultant deaths due to suicide in rural and semi-urban areas, the government brought a new law in 2025 to stop forced loan recovery.

The legislation aims to curb unethical lending and coercive recovery practices by microfinance institutions.

Since the Microloan and Small Loan (Prohibition of Forced Recovery) Ordinance and subsequently, the legislation came into effect, 40 cases were filed in places like Bengaluru city, Belagavi and Tumakuru, with 97 people named as accused, according to Parameshwara.

Trigger for tight rules

Year	Cases reported	FIRs filed	Arrests made	Suicides
2023	6	9	10	**8**
2024	21	55	59	**6**
2025	105	228	246	**24**

This shows how serious the problem is and how the government is working hard to catch and punish those breaking the rules, the home minister said.

In 2025, Mandya had 17 harassment cases, 16 FIRs, five arrests and five deaths by suicide—the highest in the state.

One of the cases involved an entire family, whose members died by suicide because of heavy debt.

Uttara Kannada had the highest number of cases (20) and arrests (22), but no deaths by suicide.

Districts like Tumakuru, Vijayanagar, Shivamogga and Udupi reported both deaths by suicide and arrests, showing that the problem exists in many parts of the state. The home minister said the government was serious about stopping microfinance harassment.

Quick action, thorough checks

Parameshwara said complaints were being registered quickly, lenders were being monitored on following RBI rules and checks were being done on whether borrowers had any existing loans, before new ones were disbursed.

Strict legal action was being taken against those who break the rules, he told the House.

With no full-time principals & PE teachers, govt PU colleges reeling

PU colleges, from Page 1

The move to notify the transfers on May 15 and conducting the counselling the very next day was resented by the lecturers, who decided to forego the first promotion in their service period of nearly three decades.

"The KPSC recruited general category lecturers for PU colleges in the 1996-97 academic year and they did not get a single promotion even after serving 28 years," said educationist Zahid Ahmed N Jagirdar.

"Now, they are not in a position to celebrate their first promotion as they are not suitably placed. Due to this, a total of 66 senior lecturers out of nearly 300 lecturers had to forego their promotion. Though a decision was taken in 2016 to fill 25% of the principal posts directly to induct young blood for effective administration, the syllabus, selection procedure, mode of examination was framed recently," said Jagirdar who is a lecturer at the Kalaburagi Government PU College For Girls.

Education experts contend that there are no sports teachers anywhere in government colleges, as a result of which students lack proper sports training. They argued that students are being deprived of a sports quota that exists for admissions to medical and engineering colleges.

The maintenance of government colleges is also a tough task as there is no provision to recruit peons and lab attenders.

Minister for School Education and Literacy Madhu Bangarappa said that around 300 lecturers were recently promoted to the post of principals and another round of promotions will be undertaken soon.

"With regard to recruitment across all departments, the process is currently on hold due to the internal reservation issue," Madhu said.

"Justice Nagamohan Das Committee has already submitted a report to the state government recently. The recruitment of PU college principals, lecturers and physical education teachers will commence without delay once the report receives approval."

Two minor girls go missing from Sirsi

SIRSI (UTTARA KANNADA DISTRICT), DHNS: Two minors girls studying in Class 6 and 8 have gone missing from Kasturbanagar in Sirsi town on Saturday evening. They left the house saying they were attending drawing class. But they came to the central bus stand and boarded a bus proceeding towards Hubballi side as per the CCTV footage. Both were not traced till Sunday evening. They were not found in their relatives' house also.

Market police have registered a case.

Shubhanshu Shukla returns to India to rousing welcome; LS set to discuss his sojourn to ISS

NEW DELHI, PTI:

Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, Union Minister of Science and Technology Jitendra Singh and Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Chairman V Narayanan receive Astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla upon his arrival at the Indira Gandhi International Airport in New Delhi on Sunday. PTI

New Delhi, PTI: Astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla returned to India early Sunday to a rousing welcome by a large number of people waving the tricolour and beating drums at the airport here to celebrate his historic visit to the International Space Station (ISS).

Shukla, who became the second Indian to undertake a spaceflight as part of the Axiom-4 mission, and his back-up astronaut-designate Prashanth Balakrishnan Nair were welcomed by Union Minister Jitendra Singh, Delhi CM Rekha Gupta, and ISRO chairman V Narayanan.

"Thank you sir. Surely feels good to be back home," Shukla posted on X in response to Singh's post welcoming after receiving him.

The government has proposed a special discussion in Lok Sabha on Monday on the subject "India's first astronaut aboard International Space Station - Critical role of space programme for Viksit Bharat by 2047" - to mark Shukla's return to India.

Shukla is expected to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday and travel to his hometown, Lucknow.

The astronaut is also expected to return to the capital to participate in the National Space Day celebrations on August 22-23.

"India's space glory touches Indian soil... as iconic son of Mother India, #Gaganyatri Shubhanshu Shukla, lands in Delhi in the early hours. Accompanying him, another equally accomplished Group Captain Prashanth Balakrishnan Nair, one of the astronauts selected for India's first human mission Gaganyaan, who was India's designated backup for the mission to International Space Station #ISS," Singh said in a post on X.

Shukla was part of the Axiom-4 private space mission that lifted off from Florida on June 25 and docked at the International Space Station on June 26. He had returned to Earth on July 15.

I-Day celebrations

Shukla and his backup astronaut Nair participated in the Independence Day celebrations at the Indian Consulate in Houston on Friday.

Addressing the 79th Independence Day celebrations at the Red Fort, Prime Minister Modi on Friday said India was developing its own space station and noted that Group Captain Shukla had returned from a space mission.

"Our Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla has returned from the space station. In the coming days, he is returning to India," Modi had said.

VP poll: Maha Guv Radhakrishnan is NDA choice

VP poll, from Page 1

The Vice-Presidential election is scheduled for September 9, with August 21 being the final date for nominations.

The party's parliamentary board has 11 members, including Home Minister Amit Shah, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, OBC Morcha chairman K Laxman, former Karnataka CM BS Yedyurappa, Sarbananda Sonowal, among others.

The polls have been necessitated by the unexpected exit of Jagdeep Dhankar, which took place on the first day of the Monsoon Session.

BJP leaders indicated that while the move was unexpected, the fallout was inevitable as Dhankhar had been taking decisions unilaterally for a while, angering the BJP top brass. The final straw came when he allowed for a motion of impeachment against Justice Yashwant Varma by the Opposition.

◆ WEATHER ◆

Overview: Rainfall occurred at most places over the Coastal Karnataka & South Interior Karnataka and at many places over North Interior Karnataka.
Forecast Aug 18: Generally cloudy sky. Light to moderate rain likely.

INTERIOR NORTH

Stations	Max	Min	Rain
Belagavi	25.0	21.6	3.6
Bidar	25.0	21.0	0.0
Vijayapura	26.8	22.0	0.0
Dharwad	25.8	20.0	7.6
Haveri	26.2	21.4	2.0
Kalaburagi	27.3	21.8	16.6
Raichur	32.0	22.0	0.0

COASTAL

Honnavar	29.5	22.5	15.6
Karwar	30.6	25.0	16.0
Shirali	NA	NA	NA
Mangaluru	27.6	23.4	44.8

INTERIOR SOUTH

Stations	Max	Min	Rain
Agumbe	NA	NA	121.0
Bengaluru	27.6	20.2	0.5
Ballari	NA	NA	NA
Chamarajanagar	28.3	21.4	0.0
Chikkamagaluru	--	--	--
Chitradurga	27.1	20.9	1.8
Davangere	25.0	19.0	3.6
Hassan	25.5	20.3	3.0
Mysuru	28.2	20.0	2.0
Madikeri	--	--	--
Kolar	28.8	18.3	tr

OTHER STATIONS

New Delhi	33.0	27.0	NIL
Kolkata	31.0	27.0	NIL
Mumbai	27.0	26.0	NA
Chennai	33.0	27.0	NA
Pune	25.0	22.0	NA
Hyderabad	24.0	22.0	NA
Th'puram	29.0	24.0	NIL

5 districts reporting rise in stillbirths

Stillbirths, Page 1

In 2024–25, the state recorded 9.91 lakh births, with 99 stillbirths (0.19%) from rural areas and 3,145 cases (7.28%) from urban areas, totalling 3,244 stillbirths.

Explaining the causes behind stillbirths last year, the report states that 239 cases were due to slow fetal growth while 368 occurred due to breathing problems during delivery. Birth-related stress was cited as the reason for 518 stillbirths and strenuous work by pregnant women was said to be behind 173 stillbirths. As many as 12 were due to accidents, 19 due to voluntary abortions and 13 due to medical terminations.

Senior gynaecologist Dr Sanjiv Kulkarni said the major reasons for stillbirths in urban women include high blood pressure, diabetes, late arrival at hospitals and difficult labour, which often results in babies dying in the womb.

"Even though doctors advise expectant mothers to undergo regular check-ups, many neglect this guidance," he said. Alcohol consumption, smoking and obesity are also cited as contributing factors in the report. Pediatrician Dr Rajan Deshpande said that some women, despite doctors recommending a caesarean section, insist on attempting a normal delivery and wait too long, which can lead to fatal outcomes for the baby. Reacting to the findings, Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao said that the government is taking all necessary steps to curb stillbirths. "We have seen a rise in stillbirths in Haveri, Dharwad and Gadag. The respective District Health Officers (DHOs) have been directed to submit a detailed report within a month. We are also conducting health awareness programmes to educate women," he stated.

Dharwad DHO S M Honakeri said that a special team has been formed to investigate the causes of stillbirths in the district, and the report will be submitted to the government within the next month.

Greens from state, Goa question WII's 'conditional' nod for doubling rly line

Institute's report flags negative impact, yet pushes for 'mitigation measures'

PAVAN KUMAR H
HUBBALLI, DHNS

A multi-institutional team of ecologists and social scientists from Karnataka and Goa have objected to the ecological impact assessment (EIA) report prepared by the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) for their 'conditional' approval for the doubling of railway line between Castle Rock in Karnataka and Molem in Goa.

The linear project passes through a critical tiger habitat, an elephant corridor and ecologically sensitive areas.

The proposed project is part of doubling the existing Hosapete-Tinaighat-Vasco Port (345 km) line. Of the total stretch, 32.3 km (Castlerock to Kulem) passes through Kali Tiger Reserve in Karnataka, Bhagwan Mahavir Wildlife Sanctuary and Molem National Park, Goa.

Experts say the report - Cumulative environment impact assessment on wildlife habitat and ecological values due to proposed doubling of railway track from Tinaighat to Kulem — whose project proponent and terms of reference for providing EIA was set by Rail Vikas Nigam Limited, is mired in conflict of interest.

The experts, who are working on Western Ghats, say the survey conducted by WII makes a very strong argument against the project, saying if a new railway line is built parallel to the existing alignment, it will certainly have negative impact on the population of endemic and threatened species, including trees and mammals.

The report says "no mitigation measure will help in reducing negative impact of the proposed line on native vegetation".

Yet, experts say, throughout the WII study, there seems to be a push for mitigation measures, even though the baseline biodiversity assessments are incomplete or have been performed using methods lacking scientific rigour.

The railway track connecting Karnataka and Goa is already prone to landslides.

Malaika Mathew Chawla, Goa-based independent wildlife biologist, says the preliminary findings of the ecologists show that the EIA report prepared by WII fails to make a complete assessment of the biodiversity.

"The report also hasn't done a social impact assessment, given that locals in Goa have been opposing the project due to its harmful impacts on public health, as a result of coal pollution (during its transportation on the line) and livelihood impacts. The report, according to us, is scientifically inaccurate and has methodological deficiencies," she says.

Wildlife activists have questioned the need for doubling the line. "The main purpose of doubling the line is to facilitate easy transport of coal from Goa ports to the hinterland of Karnataka. When India is a signatory to the Paris accord, and has internationally committed to minimize coal use, what is the use of this second line," asks Claude Alvares, wildlife activist.

He says the single line itself has created enough havoc on wildlife that is resulting in regular train kills of wild animals.

Even the WII report highlights that between February and April 2023, when the team was conducting assessment, they recorded the death of 341 animals, including amphibians, reptiles and mammals.

"The pollution caused during construction of railway tracks can potentially cause damage to neighboring habitat and divert streams, causing negative impact on the micro-habitat," says the report.

"The project presents an opportunity to navigate this delicate equilibrium, where the advancement of rail infrastructure must be harmonized with enhancement of mitigation measures, preservation of biodiversity and ecosystem integrity," the report says.

The scientists plan to soon release a peer review of the WII report.

ESTD : 1907

ದಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಸಿಟಿ ಕೋ–ಆಪರೇಟಿವ್ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ಲಿಮಿಟೆಡ್
ಆಡಳಿತ ಕಛೇರಿ, ನಂ. 3, ಪಂಪಮಹಾಕವಿ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಚಾಮರಾಜಪೇಟೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು – 18.

Ref: BCCB/EST/086/2025-26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 16.08.2025

ಅರ್ಹ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಂದ 'ಕಿರಿಯ ಸಹಾಯಕರು' ಮತ್ತು 'ಅಟೆಂಡರ್' ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸುತ್ತಿದೆ.

1. ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	I) ಕಿರಿಯ ಸಹಾಯಕರು 62 (ಅರವತ್ತೆರಡು) ii) ಅಟೆಂಡರ್ 12 (ಹನ್ನೆರಡು)
2. ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಹತೆ	i) ಕಿರಿಯ ಸಹಾಯಕರ ಹುದ್ದೆಗೆ ಭಾರತದ ಕಾನೂನಿನ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ಥಾಪನೆಯಾದ ಯಾವುದೇ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾನಿಲಯ ಪದವಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ತೇರ್ಗಡೆಯಾಗಿರಬೇಕು. ಅ) ಕನ್ನಡವನ್ನು ಓದುವ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯದ ಜೊತೆ ಕನ್ನಡದ ಜ್ಞಾನ, ಬರೆಯುವಿಕೆ ಕನ್ನಡವನ್ನು ಸ್ವಚ್ಚವಾಗಿ ಮಾತನಾಡಬೇಕು ಮತ್ತು ಅರ್ಥ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು ಮತ್ತು ಆ) ಕಂಪ್ಯೂಟರ್ ಆಪರೇಷನ್ಸ್ ಮತ್ತು ಅಪ್ಲಿಕೇಷನ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಜ್ಞಾನ ಹೊಂದಿರಬೇಕು. ii) ಅಟೆಂಡರ್ ಹುದ್ದೆಗೆ ಎಸ್.ಎಸ್.ಎಲ್.ಸಿ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಉತ್ತೀರ್ಣರಾಗಿರತಕ್ಕದ್ದು. (ಸದರಿ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕನ್ನಡವನ್ನು ಒಂದು ಭಾಷೆಯಾಗಿ ಓದಿರತಕ್ಕದ್ದು)
3. ವಯೋಮಿತಿ	ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕಕ್ಕೆ ಕನಿಷ್ಠ 18 ವರ್ಷ : ಗರಿಷ್ಠ A) ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿ/ ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ವರ್ಗ/ ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ–1 ರವರಿಗೆ 40 ವರ್ಷಗಳು B) ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ಜಾತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗದವರಿಗೆ 38 ವರ್ಷಗಳು C) ಇತರೆ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ 35 ವರ್ಷಗಳು
4.ಅಗತ್ಯ ಅರ್ಹತೆ	ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ನಿವಾಸಿಗಳಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಕನ್ನಡ ಭಾಷೆ ಬರೆಯಲು ಮತ್ತು ಓದಲು ಬಲ್ಲವರಾಗಿರಬೇಕು.
5. ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಕೆಯ ವಿಧಾನ ಮತ್ತು ಸಲ್ಲಿಕೆಗೆ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಬ್ಯಾಂಕಿನ ಅಧಿಕೃತ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ **www.bccbl.co.in** ಅನ್ನು ತೆರೆದ ಕೂಡಲೇ ಕಂಪ್ಯೂಟರ್ ಪರದೆಯ ಮೇಲೆ **BCCBANK RECRUITMENT 2025** ಎಂದು ಮೂಡುತ್ತದೆ ಮತ್ತು ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ / ಪರೀಕ್ಷಾ ಶುಲ್ಕ ವಿವರಗಳು ಲಭ್ಯವಾಗಲಿದ್ದು, ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಯಲ್ಲಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಮತ್ತು ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಸೂಚನೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಪ್ಪದೇ ಓದಿಕೊಂಡು ಅದರಂತೆ ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಅರ್ಜಿಯನ್ನು ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡತಕ್ಕದ್ದು ಅರ್ಜಿಯನ್ನು ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡುವ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ತೊಂದರೆ ಅಥವಾ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ಎದುರಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಹಾಯವಾಣಿ **(Help line) 9036072155** ಅನ್ನು **ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10.00 ಗಂಟೆಯಿಂದ ಸಂಜೆ 6.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ** ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಿ ಅಗತ್ಯ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆದು ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದು.

ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಿಕ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಶುಲ್ಕ ಪಾವತಿಸಲು ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ
20.08.2025	10.09.2025	10.09.2025

6. ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ಅರ್ಜಿ / ಪರೀಕ್ಷಾ ಶುಲ್ಕ : (GST ಒಳಗೊಂಡಂತೆ)

	ಕಿರಿಯ ಸಹಾಯಕರುಗಳು	ಅಟೆಂಡರ್
ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿ/ ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಪಂಗಡ, ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ–1 ಮತ್ತು ಅಂಗವಿಕಲ ಹಾಗೂ ಮಾಜಿ ಸೈನಿಕ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ	ರೂ.750/–	ರೂ.600/–
ಇತರರು	ರೂ.1000/–	ರೂ.800/–

ಅರ್ಜಿ ಶುಲ್ಕ ಪಾವತಿಸುವ ವಿಧಾನ : Payment using Net Banking, Credit Card, Debit Card ಮತ್ತು UPI ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಶುಲ್ಕ ಮತ್ತು Payment Gateway ಶುಲ್ಕವನ್ನು ಪಾವತಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು. ಶುಲ್ಕವನ್ನು ಪಾವತಿಸಲು ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ಕೊನೆಯ **ದಿನಾಂಕ 10/09/2025 ರ ರಾತ್ರಿ 11.59** ಒಳಗಾಗಿ ಪಾವತಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು, ಇದನ್ನು ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ ಡಿ.ಡಿ, ಪೋಸ್ಟಲ್ ಆರ್ಡರ್ ಮತ್ತು ಮನಿ ಆರ್ಡರ್ ಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ ಹಾಗೂ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಶುಲ್ಕವನ್ನು ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ದಿನಾಂಕ, ಸಮಯದೊಳಗಾಗಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸದೆ ಇರುವಂತಹ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ತಿರಸ್ಕರಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.
ಸೂಚನೆ : ಅನ್ವಯಿಸುವ ಸಂಸ್ಕರಣಾ ಶುಲ್ಕ (Processing Charges) ಹೆಚ್ಚುವರಿಯಾಗಿ ಪಾವತಿಸಬೇಕು.

7. ಲಿಖಿತ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ ಮತ್ತು ಕರೆ ಪತ್ರಗಳು	ಲಿಖಿತ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಗೆ ಹಾಜರಾಗಲು ಬ್ಯಾಂಕು ತೀರ್ಮಾನಿಸಿದ ಮಾನದಂಡದ ಅನುಗುಣವಾಗಿ ಅರ್ಹ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಕರೆ ಪತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ಕಳುಹಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ಕಿರಿಯ ಸಹಾಯಕರುಗಳ ಹುದ್ದೆಯ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಕನ್ನಡ ಭಾಷೆ, ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಆಂಗ್ಲ ಭಾಷೆ, ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಜ್ಞಾನ, ಸಹಕಾರಿ ವಿಷಯ, ಭಾರತ ಸಂವಿಧಾನ, ಸಮಾಜದ ಯುಕ್ತವಾದ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ವಸ್ತುನಿಷ್ಠ ವಿಷಯಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಲಿಖಿತ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ ಬರೆಯಬೇಕಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಅಟೆಂಡರ್ ಹುದ್ದೆಯ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಕನ್ನಡ ಭಾಷೆ ಓದಲು / ಬರೆಯುವುದಕ್ಕೆ /ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಜ್ಞಾನ / ಇತ್ಯಾದಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ ಬರೆಯಬೇಕಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಯಲ್ಲಿನ ಅವರ ಸಾಧನೆಯ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕಿನ ಮಾನದಂಡದಂತೆ ಸಂದರ್ಶನ ಪತ್ರವನ್ನು ಕಳುಹಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂದರ್ಶನದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಸಾಧನೆ ಆಧರಿಸಿ ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುವುದು.
8. ವೇತನ ಶ್ರೇಣಿ	**ಕಿರಿಯ ಸಹಾಯಕರು ಹುದ್ದೆ:** 61300–1500–64300–1650–74200–1900–85600–2300–99400–2700–112900 **ಅಟೆಂಡರ್ ಹುದ್ದೆ :** 44425–1125–47800–1250–52800–1375–58300–1500–64300–1650–74200– 1900–83700 ಆಡಳಿತ ಮಂಡಳಿಯ ತೀರ್ಮಾನದ ರೀತ್ಯಾ ತುಟ್ಟಿ ಭತ್ಯೆ, ನಗರ ಪರಿಹಾರ ಭತ್ಯೆ, ಮನೆ ಬಾಡಿಗೆ ಭತ್ಯೆ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಭತ್ಯೆಗಳನ್ನು ನೀಡಲಾಗುವುದು.
9. ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಸೂಚನೆಗಳು	A) ಅಂಚೆ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಿಂದ ಅಥವಾ ಇನ್ನಾವುದೇ ರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪತ್ರಗಳು ತಲುಪಲು ತಡವಾದರೆ ಅಥವಾ ತಲುಪದಿದ್ದರೆ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿಯಾಗಿರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. B) ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿರುವ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಸಂದರ್ಶನದ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಲಸ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯಿಂದ (Employer) ನಿರಪೇಕ್ಷಣಾ ಪತ್ರ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬೇಕು. C) ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂದರ್ಶನಕ್ಕೆ ತಮ್ಮ ಸ್ವಂತ ಖರ್ಚಿನಲ್ಲಿಯೇ ಹಾಜರಾಗಬೇಕಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. D) ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಅರ್ಹತೆ, ಲಿಖಿತ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ, ಸಂದರ್ಶನ ಅಥವಾ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಆಯ್ಕೆಯ ವಿಚಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಡಳಿತ ಮಂಡಳಿಯ ತೀರ್ಮಾನವೇ ಅಂತಿಮ, ಈ ಕುರಿತು ಪತ್ರ ವ್ಯವಹಾರವನ್ನು ಮಾನ್ಯ ಮಾಡುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. E) ಹುದ್ದೆಗೆ ಆಯ್ಕೆಯಾದ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಬ್ಯಾಂಕಿನ ಹಾಲಿ ಇರುವ ಅಥವಾ ಮುಂದೆ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಿಸುವ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಯಾವುದೇ ಶಾಖೆ/ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಲು ಸಿದ್ಧರಿರಬೇಕು.

ಸಹಿ/– (ಪಿ. ಮಂಜುನಾಥ)
ನೇಮಕಾತಿ ಉಪಸಮಿತಿ ಸದಸ್ಯರು ಹಾಗೂ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕರು
ದಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಸಿಟಿ ಕೋ–ಆಪರೇಟಿವ್ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ಲಿಮಿಟೆಡ್

रजिस्ट्री सं. डी.एल. 33004/99 REGD. No. D.L. - 33004/99

भारत का राजपत्र
The Gazette of India

सी.जी.-डी.एल.-अ.- 14082025-265433
CG - DL - E -14082025-265433
असाधारण
EXTRAORDINARY
भाग- II - खण्ड- 3 - उप खण्ड- (ii)
PART II - Section -3 - Sub section (ii)
प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं. 3639] नई दिल्ली, बुधवार, अगस्त 13, 2025 / श्रावण 22, 1947
No. 3639] NEW DELHI, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2025 / SHRAVANA 22, 1947

MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 13th August, 2025

S.O. 3731(E), Date: 13.08.2025.— In exercise of powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 3A of the National Highways Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government, after being satisfied that for the public purpose, the land, the brief description of which is given in the Schedule below, is required for building (widening/Two/ Four laning etc.,), maintenance, management and operation of **NH-69 in the stretch of land from Design Km 347.500 (Intersection with NH-48 at Km 116.800) to Km 367.700 on Sira to Badavanahalli section in the district of TUMKUR in the state of KARNATAKA,** hereby declares its intention to acquire such land.

Any person interested in the said land may, within twenty-one days from the date of publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, object to the use of such land for the aforesaid purpose under sub-section(1) of section 3C of the said Act.

The Hearing of objections as per National Highway Act 1956 section 3C (1) (2) and (3) will be on 12.09.2025, 11:00 A.M. Every such objection shall be made to the Competent Authority, namely, **Special Land Acquisition Officer and Competent Authority, National Highway Authority of India, 1st Floor, Impana Arcade, Geddalahalli Road, Saptagiri Extension, Tumkur - 572102** in writing and shall set out the grounds thereof and the Competent Authority Shall give the objector an opportunity of being heard, either in person or by a legal practitioner, and may, after hearing all such objections and aftermaking such further enquiry, if any, as the Competent Authority thinks necessary, by order, either allow or disallow the objections.

Any order made by the Competent Authority under sub-section (2) of section 3C of the said Act shall be final.

The land plans and other details of the land to be acquired under their notification are available and can be inspected by the interested person at the aforesaid office of the Competent Authority.

SCHEDULE

Brief Description of the land to be acquired with or without **structures falling within the stretch of land from Design Km 347.500 (Intersection with NH-48 at Km 116.800) to Km 367.700 on Sira to Badavanahalli section of NH69 in the district of TUMKUR in the state of KARNATAKA.**

STATE: KARNATAKA **DISTRICT: TUMKUR**

Sl. No.	Survey / Plot Number	Type of Land	Nature of Land	Area (in Local Unit) (in Sq.Mtr.)	Area (in Hectare)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Taluk:Sira					
Village:Magodu					
1	191	Private	Dry	216.7865	0.0216786
2	199	Government	Kharab	6144.703	0.61447
3	200/6	Private	Dry	747.592	0.0747592
Village: Borasandra					
4	120	Private	Dry/NAK	1774.6685	0.177467
5	121	Private	Dry/NAK	1458.0275	0.145803
6	122	Common (Government/Private)	Dry	1237.6415	0.123764
7	127	Private	Dry	1345.201	0.13452
8	128	Private	Dry	1343.3955	0.13434
9	129/1	Private	Dry	120.52	0.012052
10	129/2	Private	Dry	246.1805	0.024618
11	129/3	Private	Dry	357.489	0.0357489
12	131/1	Private	Dry	256.1165	0.0256116
13	131/2	Private	Dry	237.199	0.0237199
14	131/3	Private	Dry	218.2815	0.0218281
15	131/4	Private	Dry	212.6005	0.0212601
16	132/1	Private	Dry	720.8315	0.0720832
17	132/2	Private	Dry	374.141	0.0374141
18	132/3	Private	Dry	4.922	0.0004922
19	133/2	Private	Dry	437.644	0.0437644
20	133/6	Private	Dry	1077.3545	0.107735
21	135/1	Private	Wet/Dry	736.6325	0.0736633
22	135/2	Private	Dry	424.281	0.0424281
23	135/3	Private	Dry	426.19	0.042619
24	136/2	Private	Dry	1632.471	0.163247
25	136/5	Private	Dry	519.5125	0.0519513
26	137	Common (Government/Private)	Dry/Wet	3259.215	0.325922
Village: Guligenahalli					
27	42/11	Private	Dry	453.2035	0.0453204
28	42/3	Private	Dry	1032.608	0.103261
29	42/8	Private	Dry	1679.8625	0.167986
30	43/1A	Private	Dry	416.599	0.0416599
31	43/1B2	Private	Dry	200.1345	0.0200135
32	43/3	Common (Government/Private)	Dry	237.222	0.0237222
33	44/1	Private	Dry	1002.9725	0.100297
34	44/4	Private	Dry	45.149	0.0045149
35	48/1	Private	Dry	1139.627	0.113963
36	48/3	Private	Dry	621.368	0.0621368
37	48/4	Private	Dry	319.7115	0.0319712
38	48/5	Private	Dry	345.1725	0.0345173
39	48/6	Private	Dry	775.974	0.0775974
40	48/7	Private	Dry	366.8408	0.0366841
41	50/1	Private	Dry	1083.507	0.108351
42	50/2	Private	Dry	289.34	0.028934
43	50/3A	Private	Dry	1130.128	0.113013
44	50/4	Private	Dry	1301.478	0.130148
45	51	Private	Dry	563.5	0.05635
46	53/1	Private	Dry	217.534	0.0217534
47	53/2	Private	Dry	54.1535	0.0054154
48	53/3	Private	Dry	40.388	0.0040388
49	54/2	Private	Wet/Dry	271.446	0.0271446
50	54/3	Private	Dry	71.852	0.0071852
51	54/4	Private	Dry	14.6625	0.0014663
52	54/6	Private	Dry	32.1885	0.0032189
53	54/7	Private	Dry	17.388	0.0017388
54	54/8	Private	Dry	46.3335	0.0046333
55	56/10	Private	Wet	91.034	0.0091034
56	56/11	Private	Dry	133.331	0.0133331
57	56/4	Private	Dry	98.4745	0.0098475
58	56/9	Private	Wet	209.2425	0.0209243
59	57/1A2	Common (Government/Private)	Dry	76.015	0.0076015
60	57/1B	Common (Government/Private)	Dry	79.3845	0.0079385
61	57/1C	Common (Government/Private)	Dry	75.2905	0.0075291
62	57/2C	Private	Dry	116.84	0.011684
63	62/1	Private	Dry	571.849	0.0571849
64	62/2	Private	Dry	306.8545	0.0306854
65	62/3	Private	Dry	599.4375	0.0599438
66	62/5	Private	Dry	545.7555	0.0545755
67	62/6	Private	Dry/NAK	351.1295	0.035113
68	63	Private	Dry	5969.65	0.596965
69	64/1A	Private	Dry	497.973	0.0497973
70	64/3A1	Private	Dry	42.366	0.0042366
71	64/3B	Private	Dry	102.2925	0.0102293
72	64/3C	Private	Dry	29.0375	0.0029038
73	64/4A1	Private	Dry	300.564	0.0300564
74	64/4B	Government	Dry	1120.7785	0.112078
75	67	Private	Dry/NAK	396.842	0.0396842
76	68	Government	Kharabu	192.0155	0.0192016
77	village	Private	Dry	235.4165	0.0235417
Village: Nyayagere					
78	14	Government	Kharab	6676.4285	0.667643
79	15/1	Private	Dry	788.9	0.07889
80	15/10	Private	Dry	188.646	0.0188646
81	15/11	Private	Dry	410.9065	0.0410906
82	15/14	Private	Dry	99.015	0.0099015
83	15/15	Private	Dry	90.8845	0.0090885
84	15/16	Private	Dry	90.3325	0.0090333
85	15/17	Private	Dry	108.1345	0.0108135
86	15/18	Private	Dry	90.712	0.0090712
87	15/19	Private	Dry	156.5495	0.0156549
88	15/2	Private	Dry	530.426	0.0530426
89	15/22	Private	Dry	629.28	0.062928
90	15/23	Private	Dry	176.0765	0.0176077
91	15/24	Private	Dry	787.842	0.0787842
92	15/3A	Private	Dry	720.7165	0.0720716
93	15/3B	Private	Dry	435.436	0.0435436
94	15/4	Private	Dry	365.7805	0.0365781
95	15/5	Private	Dry	97.4855	0.0097486
96	15/6	Private	Dry/NAK	466.601	0.0466601
97	15/7	Private	Dry	182.298	0.0182298
98	15/8	Private	Dry	447.557	0.0447557
99	16	Private	Dry	7812.594	0.781259
100	70	Private	NAK/ Dry	1965.9825	0.196598
101	71	Private	Dry	10451.5565	1.04516
102	75/2	Private	NAK	1052.3075	0.105231
103	75/3	Private	Dry	421.3255	0.0421325
104	76/1	Private	Dry	692.3345	0.0692335
105	76/2	Private	Dry	1017.681	0.101768
106	76/3	Private	Dry	800.7335	0.0800734
Village: Halkuru					
107	101/1	Private	Dry	28.75	0.002875
108	101/2	Private	Dry	1892.072	0.189207
109	101/3	Private	Dry	2115.793	0.211579
110	108	Private	Dry	678.2355	0.0678236
111	29	Government	Dry	261.556	0.0261556
112	31	Private	Dry/Wet	4172.66	0.417266
113	32	Private	Dry	5542.471	0.554247
114	36/14	Private	Dry	78.936	0.0078936
115	36/16	Private	Dry	90.551	0.0090551
116	36/3	Private	Dry	179.975	0.0179975
117	36/4	Private	Dry	1522.7495	0.152275
118	36/5	Private	Dry	106.835	0.0106835
119	36/6	Private	Dry	100.648	0.0100648
120	36/7	Private	Dry	107.0995	0.01071
121	36/8	Private	Dry	24.357	0.0024357
122	37/1	Private	Dry	6712.2625	0.671226
123	37/2	Private	Dry	1876.547	0.187655
124	37/4	Private	Dry	8614.8685	0.861487
125	38/9	Private	Dry	26.5995	0.00266
126	40/2	Private	Dry	290.536	0.0290536
127	40/3	Private	Dry	589.881	0.0589881
128	41/1F1	Private	Dry	331.913	0.0331913
129	41/1F2	Private	Dry	997.6595	0.0997659
Village: Halkuru Kaval					
130	49	Common (Government/Private)	Wet	31594.295	3.15943
Village: Gummanahalli					
131	127/1	Private	Dry	11138.992	1.1139
132	127/2	Private	Dry	2710.527	0.271053
133	128	Private	Dry	8892.812	0.889281
134	133	Private	Wet	5258.881	0.525888
135	39/1	Private	Garden	23.1035	0.0023104
136	39/2	Private	Garden	875.173	0.0875173
137	39/3	Private	Garden	318.4695	0.0318469
138	45/2A	Private	Dry	299.0345	0.0299034
139	45/2B	Private	Wet	2287.7985	0.22878
140	45/3	Private	Wet/Garden	2605.463	0.260546
141	46/1	Private	Dry	3189.916	0.318992
142	47/1A1	Private	Dry	1016.3125	0.101631
143	47/1A2	Private	Dry	9485.9475	0.948595
144	47/1B	Private	Dry	2682.6165	0.268262
145	48/1A	Private	Garden	8192.324	0.819232
146	48/1B1	Private	Garden	1167.158	0.116716
147	48/3	Private	Garden	90.3325	0.0090333
148	48/4	Private	Garden	1621.0515	0.162105
149	48/9	Private	Garden	565.3285	0.0565328
150	50	Government	Sendivana	7529.395	0.75294
151	54/1A	Private	Dry	1775.37	0.177537
152	54/1B	Private	Dry	4172.2345	0.417223
153	54/2	Private	Dry	7153.3795	0.715338
154	54/3	Private	Dry	2404.5925	0.240459
155	54/5	Private	Dry	1909.92	0.190992
156	55/4	Private	Dry/Garden	1459.1775	0.145918
157	77/19	Private	Dry	9628.697	0.96287
158	77/20	Private	Dry	2463.07	0.246307
159	77/6	Private	Dry	362.158	0.0362158
160	77/8	Private	Dry	50.5425	0.0050543
161	79	Government (Government/lake land)	Lake	10970.241	1.09702
Village: Emmerahalli					
162	32/4	Private	Dry	542.6735	0.0542673
163	32/5	Private	Dry	1264.625	0.126463
164	32/7	Private	Dry	1515.838	0.151584
165	32/8	Private	Dry	672.3475	0.0672347
166	40	Private	Dry	6776.858	0.677686
167	6/1	Private	Dry	1233.6625	0.123366
168	6/14	Private	Dry/Garden	3877.34	0.387734
169	6/15	Private	Dry/Garden	1035.4715	0.103547
170	6/21	Private	Dry	209.8175	0.0209817
171	6/3	Private	Dry	708.19	0.070819
172	6/4	Private	Dry	863.558	0.0863558
173	6/5	Private	Dry	908.684	0.0908684
174	6/6	Private	Dry/Garden	1037.1275	0.103713
175	6/7	Private	Dry	1618.72	0.161872
176	6/8	Private	Dry	912.1915	0.0912192
Village: Teggahalli					
177	1/1	Private	Dry	8669.7465	0.866975
178	1/2	Private	Dry	2352.854	0.235285
179	1/3	Private	NAK	753.503	0.0753503
180	1/4	Private	Dry	4811.5425	0.481154
181	1/5	Private	Dry	2892.687	0.289269
182	11	Private	Dry/Garden	6831.4945	0.683149
183	7/2	Private	Dry	364.136	0.0364136
184	7/3A1	Private	Dry	433.6305	0.043363
185	7/3A2	Private	Dry	434.746	0.0434746
186	7/4	Private	Dry	567.962	0.0567962
187	8	Common (Government/Private)	Dry	17869.482	1.78695
188	9/1	Private	Dry	7325.891	0.732589
189	9/2	Private	Dry	2658.846	0.265885
190	9/3	Private	Dry	2806.437	0.280644
191	village	Private	Dry	918.735	0.0918735
Taluk: Madhugiri					
Village: Lakshmipura (Venkatapura)					
192	5	Common (Government/Private)	Dry	2431.1575	0.243116
193	6/1	Private	Garden	617.2395	0.061724
194	7/1	Private	Dry	671.0365	0.0671037
195	7/2	Private	Dry	421.2726	0.0421273
196	7/4	Private	Dry	369.449	0.0369449
197	8/2	Private	Wet	501.4345	0.0501435
198	8/5	Private	Dry/Wet	491.993	0.0491993
Village: Dodderi					
199	118/1	Private	Wet	1146.9295	0.114693
200	120/1	Private	Wet	788.33765	0.0788338
201	120/2	Private	Wet	517.3505	0.0517351
202	123/2	Private	Dry	675.2225	0.0675222
203	124/1	Private	Garden	207.1495	0.0207149
204	124/2	Private	Garden	331.8785	0.0331878
205	139/4A	Private	Dry/Wet	182.7695	0.0182769
206	139/4B	Private	Dry/Wet	173.0865	0.0173087
207	139/4C1	Private	Wet	162.1845	0.0162185
208	139/4C2	Private	Wet	62.537	0.0062537
209	140/4	Private	Garden	202.124	0.0202124
210	141	Private	Dry/Wet	679.5465	0.0679547
211	142/1	Government	Dry/Wet/ Garden	983.2385	0.0983239
212	142/2	Private	Dry	543.513	0.0543513
213	143	Private	Dry	842.8005	0.0842801
214	144/5B	Government	Govt	1132.8995	0.11329
215	144/9A	Government	Govt	86.066	0.0086066
216	144/9B	Government	Govt	131.1115	0.0131112
217	28/5	Private	Dry	1343.7405	0.134374
218	28/7	Private	Dry/Wet/ Garden	406.249	0.0406249
219	29/1	Private	Dry/Garden	954.914	0.0954914
220	29/11	Private	Garden	234.14	0.023414
221	29/12	Private	Garden	208.2305	0.0208231
222	29/2	Private	NAK	719.417	0.0719417
223	29/5	Private	Garden	329.9925	0.0329993
224	29/6	Private	Garden	322.69	0.032269
225	29/7	Private	Garden	586.1435	0.0586144
226	30/14	Private	Dry	144.302	0.0144302
227	30/3	Private	NA Kharab/ Garden	60.743	0.0060743
228	30/7	Private	Dry/Garden	79.856	0.0079856
229	31	Government	Kharab	2175.8	0.21758
230	32/10	Private	Dry	114.6665	0.0114666
231	32/7B	Private	Dry/NAK	135.194	0.0135194
232	32/8	Private	NAKharab	26.8065	0.0026807
233	32/9	Private	Dry	42.9295	0.004293

contd....

DMK's dilemma over VP nominee: Tamil pride or ideology?

Radhakrishnan's candidacy tests party's regional identity vs anti-BJP stance

E T B SIVAPRIYAN
CHENNAI, DHNS

Tamil Nadu's ruling DMK will have to walk a tightrope between Tamil pride and its strident opposition to the BJP-RSS ideology following the NDA's decision to field 'son of the soil' C P Radhakrishnan as its candidate for the vice-presidential election on September 9.

The nomination of Radhakrishnan, who represented Coimbatore twice in the Lok Sabha, comes at a time when the BJP is at the receiving end of DMK's attacks. The Dravidian party has been using every opportunity to brand the saffron party as "anti-Tamil" and accuse it of acting against the interests of the state and its distinct culture.

The DMK government and the BJP-led Centre are also locked in a tussle over the refusal of funds under Samagra Shiksha, after Tamil Nadu declined to implement a three-language policy, which the state views as a backdoor entry for Hindi.

Interestingly, Radhakrishnan met DMK president and Chief Minister MK Stalin on August 11 in Chennai to enquire about his health.

By fielding CPR, the BJP is signalling that it respects Tamil Nadu and Tamils, despite the state rejecting the party electorally.

While Tamil outreach may not be the only factor behind CPR's nomination — especially after the sudden resignation of Jagdeep Dhankhar — it is certainly one of the considerations, given the BJP's concerted efforts to expand its base in Tamil Nadu.

For the DMK, the situation is a classic Catch-22. With 22 members in the Lok Sabha and 10 in the Rajya Sabha, the party will face pressure from the BJP and its ally AIADMK to support CPR, a 'pachai Tamizhan' (true-blue Tamil). But the DMK's allies — Congress, Left and VCK — are unlikely to approve such a move, as they would see CPR primarily through the prism of his RSS-BJP background.

Backing Radhakrishnan solely because he hails from Tamil Nadu might also risk alienating the DMK from the I.N.D.I.A. bloc. The party currently enjoys excellent rapport with the Congress, and any deviation could strain ties within the alliance in Tamil Nadu, if not at the national level.

At the same time, opposing CPR won't be easy either. He belongs to the dominant Gounder community.

The real question is whether the DMK would be willing to back a BJP candidate when Assembly elections are barely eight months away. Such a move would give rival parties ammunition to portray the DMK and BJP as two sides of the same coin — an allegation already being pushed by Tamilaga Vetri Kazhagam leader and actor Vijay.

Senior journalist Maalan Narayanan told *DH* that the DMK will be expected to support CPR, with his RSS background being the only likely point of contention. The BJP will use his nomination to claim it respects Tamils by elevating a senior Tamil leader to a top constitutional post, he said.

Tamil Nadu watcher R Bhagwan Singh echoed this, noting the BJP will frame CPR's nomination as a counter to the DMK's narrative of cultural marginalisation.

Narayanan added that even if the DMK opposes CPR, it's unlikely to impact the 2026 polls.

Grassroots to Guv to vice-prez pick

CHENNAI, DHNS

C P Radhakrishnan was appointed Governor of Jharkhand in February 2023, as part of the BJP's efforts to pave the way for younger leadership to take over the mantle in Tamil Nadu.

Two and a half years later, the 68-year-old former BJP veteran, who cut his political teeth in the RSS, has been thrust into the national spotlight after being named the vice-presidential candidate of the ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA). He was later transferred from Jharkhand to Maharashtra.

Fondly known as CPR, Radhakrishnan hails from the influential Gounder community in Tamil Nadu, a section of which has extended support to the saffron party over the past decade. A former chief of the Tamil Nadu BJP, he is credited with expanding the party's footprint in the communally sensitive Coimbatore.

Born in Tiruppur in 1957, CPR was associated with the RSS from his early days.

A grassroots leader who always kept his ear to the ground, CPR, a man from the Vajpayee-Advani era, was elected MP from Coimbatore in 1998 and 1999, when the BJP was in alliance with the AIADMK and DMK, respectively. In 1998, he won the seat with the highest margin in the state.

Though he lost the elections in 2004 and again in 2019 (when the BJP was allied with the AIADMK), CPR polled 3.89 lakh votes without the support of Dravidian parties.

In 2024, K Annamalai, a fellow Gounder who contested from Coimbatore after Radhakrishnan stepped aside, polled over 4.50 lakh votes.

Colleagues describe CPR as a down-to-earth leader who forged friendships across the political spectrum. Even DMK leaders often remarked that he is "the right person in the wrong party".

KT Raghavan, a senior Tamil Nadu BJP leader who served as chief of the party's youth wing under CPR, told *DH* that he has remained unchanged over the years. "He is a good soul — utterly honest. I've only ever seen him spend from his own pocket for the party," Raghavan said.

Radhakrishnan's appointment as Governor in 2023 — the third senior TN leader to be sent to Raj Bhavans across the country after Tamilisai Soundararajan and L Ganesan (who died on August 15) — is also seen as an effort to woo the Gounder community.

His nomination is also part of the saffron party's efforts to make inroads into Tamil Nadu.

An avid sportsperson, Radhakrishnan was a college champion in table tennis and a long-distance runner.

No clarity on LAC patrols before bilateral meet

Doval, Wang Yi to meet tomorrow for 24th round

ANIRBAN BHAUMIK
NEW DELHI, DHNS

India and China are set to hold the 24th round of boundary negotiations on Tuesday, even as uncertainty persists on ending the moratorium on patrolling in the buffer zones created between February 2021 and September 2022 in some locations along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) to end the military standoff in eastern Ladakh.

National Security Advisor Ajit Doval will host Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi for the 24th round of boundary negotiations in New Delhi on Tuesday. The leaders — the current special representatives of their countries for boundary negotiations — held the previous round of talks in Beijing on December 18, 2024.

Wang is also expected to meet External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar shortly after landing in New Delhi on Monday for a two-day visit.

He will call on Prime Minister Narendra Modi after the boundary negotiations on Tuesday, according to the Ministry of External Affairs.

Wang's visit follows Doval's and Jaishankar's recent trips to China. Though the two sides are trying to bring their relations back on track, they have not yet decided if and when the patrolling moratorium in the buffer zones will be lifted.

Jaishankar said on December 3, 2024, that the moratorium on patrolling in the buffer zones in Galwan Valley, Pangong Tso northern and southern banks, and the Gogra and Hotsprings areas could be revisited as and when the situation demanded it.

An October 2024 deal allowed the Indian Army to resume patrolling in Depsang and Demchok, up to the points, which the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) had blocked since the beginning of the April-May 2020 military standoff.

The new agreement, however, did not end the patrolling moratorium that the Indian Army and the Chinese PLA had mutually agreed upon while creating a 3-km (about 1.5 km on both sides) "buffer zone" in the Galwan Valley on July 6, 2020.

The new agreement also did not allow the Indian Army to go back to the earlier patrolling pattern.

Cloudburst in J&K again: 7 killed in Kathua; Kishtwar toll climbs to 65

Damaged road following a cloudburst, in Kathua, Sunday. PTI

ZULFIKAR MAJID
SRINAGAR, DHNS

Just days after a massive cloudburst devastated a remote village in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district, claiming 65 lives, another tragedy struck on Sunday in the Kathua district, where at least seven people — four children, two women, and a teenager — were killed and six others injured after cloudburst-triggered flash floods hit the Jod Ghati village in Rajbagh.

The cloudburst occurred during the intervening night of Saturday and Sunday, mobilising water and mud that swept through farmland and homes, snapping road links and trapping villagers, officials said. Panic spread as residents, caught off guard, rushed to higher ground.

A joint team of the police and the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) reached the remote site in the early hours of Sunday, braving washed-out tracks to retrieve bodies and rescue the injured. Local volunteers joined the efforts, carrying victims to safety.

Meanwhile, Railway authorities suspended services between Udhampur and Pathankot on Sunday owing to heavy rainfall and flood conditions, further disrupting movement.

While Kathua reeled under the fresh disaster, rescue operations entered the fourth day in Kishtwar's Chosoti village, where a cloudburst on Thursday injured at least 100.

Hundreds of NDRF, SDRF, police, and Army personnel remained engaged in round-the-clock operations, using heavy machinery to clear boulders.

Helicopters were also deployed to ferry the critically injured from cut-off hamlets. Officials said several bodies were still feared trapped under mudslides, while the injured were shifted to district hospitals in Kishtwar and Jammu.

1	2	3	4	5	6
234	33	Government (Government/Road lane)	Road	959.698	0.0959698
Village: Badavanahalli					
235	11/2	Private	Kharab	28.75	0.002875
236	12/1B2	Private	Wet/NAK	984.515	0.0984515
237	13	Government	Sendivana	158.1825	0.0158183
238	134	Private	Dry	79.1545	0.0079154
239	159/1	Common (Government/Private)	Dry	28.6465	0.0028647
240	160/3A2	Private	Kharab	56.994	0.0056994
241	161	Government	Govt	79.4075	0.0079408
242	168/1	Private	Dry	2203.216	0.220322
243	3/1	Private	Dry	65.895	0.0065895
244	3/3	Private	Dry	512.1525	0.0512153
245	3/4	Private	Dry	66.3205	0.0066321
246	4/1A2	Private	Dry	431.9515	0.0431952
247	4/2A1A	Private	Dry	545.698	0.0545698
248	40/1A	Private	Kharab	256.565	0.0256565
249	40/1B	Private	Kharab	401.258	0.0401258
250	40/3B	Private	Kharab/NAK	169.9815	0.0169982
251	40/4B	Private	Kharab/NAK	209.231	0.0209231
252	40/5B	Private	Kharab/NAK	229.494	0.0229494
253	40/6	Private	Dry	322.3335	0.0322334
254	41/1A4	Government	Kharab	385.6525	0.0385652
255	41/2	Private	Dry	492.729	0.0492729
256	41/3A3	Private	Dry	394.2913	0.0394291
257	41/3B	Private	Kharab	288.9145	0.0288914
258	44/2	Private	Dry/Wet	1677.4015	0.16774
259	45	Private	NAK/ Dry	1020.809	0.102081
260	46	Private	NAK	1591.5885	0.159159
261	47	Common (Government/lakeland)	Lake	67.7925	0.0067793
262	49	Private	Dry	397.647	0.0397647
263	5/1A	Private	Kharab	257.025	0.0257025
264	5/1B	Private	Dry	1170.976	0.117098
265	5/2A	Private	Kharab	83.513	0.0083513
266	5/2B2	Private	Kharab	73.784	0.0073784
267	5/3A2B	Private	Kharab/NAK	44.5625	0.0044563
268	5/3B	Private	Kharab/NAK	119.945	0.0119945
269	51	Government	Dry	3477.6345	0.347763
270	54	Private	Dry	4172.8325	0.417283
271	55	Government	GovtPada	2082.2475	0.208225
272	56	Common (Government/Private)	Dry	8371.0915	0.837109
273	6	Private	Kharab	1085.83	0.108583
274	66	Government	Govt	1229.2465	0.122925
275	69	Government	Kharab/Dry	1380.207	0.138021
276	7	Private	Wet	195.9485	0.0195948
277	70	Private	Dry	954.0285	0.0954029
278	8	Government	Govt	909.604	0.0909604
279	9	Government	Kharab	1150.1265	0.115013
280	Settlement	Common (Government/Private)	Dry/Builtup area	961.8485	0.0961848
281	Village	Private	Dry	66.148	0.0066148
Village: Badavanahalli Amrutmahal Kaval					
282	180	Private	Dry	88.6995	0.00887
283	185	Private	Dry	349.1515	0.0349151
284	186	Private	Dry	440.8295	0.0440829
285	187	Private	Dry	1291.588	0.129159
286	188	Private	Dry	2954.695	0.29547
287	189	Private	Dry	1697.216	0.169722
288	190	Private	Dry	608.212	0.0608212
289	191	Private	Dry	2028.508	0.202851
290	207	Private	Dry	576.2305	0.0576231
291	208	Private	Dry	1958.5305	0.195853
292	214	Private	Dry	2630.418	0.263042
293	251	Private	Dry	1091.2925	0.109129
294	578	Private	Dry	2578.254	0.257825
Village: Konnahalli					
295	10	Private	Dry	1018.7505	0.101875
296	10/4B1	Private	Dry	929.66	0.092966
297	104	Private	Wet/Dry	1103.885	0.110388
298	110	Private	Wet	239.3035	0.0239304
299	18	Government	Kharab	1883.217	0.188322
300	19	Common (Government/Private)	Dry	637.675	0.0637675
301	20/1	Private	Dry	489.21	0.048921
302	21/1	Private	Dry	2072.9095	0.207291
303	22/1	Private	Dry	635.191	0.0635191
304	22/2	Private	Dry	1031.9525	0.103195
305	22/3	Private	Dry	643.2525	0.0643253
306	22/4A1	Private	Dry	190.7735	0.0190774
307	22/4A2	Private	Dry	282.0835	0.0282084
308	22/4B	Private	Dry/ Alienation land	28.75	0.002875
309	55	Government	Kharab	71.99	0.007199
310	56/1A	Private	Garden	536.1415	0.0536141
311	56/1B	Private	Garden	487.554	0.0487554
312	75/1	Private	Garden	136.321	0.0136321
313	75/2	Private	Dry/Garden	534.9685	0.0534968
314	75/5	Private	Garden	78.2	0.00782
315	75/6	Private	Garden	54.257	0.0054257
316	75/7	Private	Garden	82.3975	0.0082398
317	79	Private	Dry	1405.5415	0.140554
318	9/4	Private	Dry/Wet	28.75	0.002875
Village: Konapanayakanahalli					
319	18/1	Private	Dry	1000.201	0.10002
320	18/2A	Private	Dry	333.822	0.0333822
321	18/2B	Private	NAK	718.014	0.0718014
322	18/4	Private	Dry	736.552	0.0736552
323	23	Private	Garden	896.034	0.0896034
324	24/1	Private	Dry	125.0625	0.0125063
325	25	Private	Dry	1859.458	0.185946
326	26/1	Private	Wet	925.52	0.092552
327	27/1	Private	Garden	365.999	0.0365999
328	27/2	Private	Garden	556.071	0.0556071
329	28	Private	Garden	602.1515	0.0602152
330	32	Private	Garden	348.013	0.0348013
				Total	**45.7796465**

[F.No.CNH/TA-3/AE-4/NH-69/3(a)2024-25/3A]
SHAIKH AMINKHAN, Director

Uttarakhand clears bill to regulate minority educational institutions

SUMIT PANDE
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The BJP government in Uttarakhand on Sunday cleared a bill to regulate minority educational institutions in the state by setting up an authority that will also decide on the academic curriculum to be followed by these institutions.

A Cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami cleared the Uttarakhand Minority Education (UME) Bill that is slated to be introduced in the upcoming Assembly session this week.

Uttarakhand is also the first state to have introduced a law to implement a Universal Civil Code (UCC) to regulate personal laws including marriages, divorce and adoption.

Like the UCC, the bill on minority education also proposes to bring all minority community-run institutions under the ambit of the regulatory authority. Until now, only institutions run by the Muslim community have been recognised as minority educational institutions.

With the enactment of the law, the Uttarakhand Madrasa Education Board Act, 2016, and the Uttarakhand Non-Government Arabic and Persian Madrasa Recognition Rules, 2019, will stand repealed.

The other key features of the bill include mandatory approval from the authority to qualify as a minority educational institution. The authority has, however, been authorised to decide the curriculum for the institutions and ensure that education is imparted in accordance with the Board of School Education.

There are around 450 madrasas registered in Uttarakhand, mostly in Haridwar and Udham Singh Nagar. In recent months, the state government has acted against 237 illegal madrasas.

Uttarakhand is also home to some of the top Christian minority-run educational institutions and schools in Mussoorie, Dehradun and Nainital.

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521

TENDER NOTIFICATION

(THROUGH KPP PORTAL ONLY)

KPTCL invites bid against enquiry No: **KPTCL/VSAT-Upgradtion/2025-26** for "**Up-Gradation of KPTCL SCADA VSAT Communication Network".** The bids will be received through E-Procurement mode only. The detailed notification regarding the enquiry can be obtained by logging onto KPTCL website **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** on the hyperlink **'E Procurement KPTCL'** or to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after 21-08-2025, 5.00 PM.** Other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/- Chief General Manager (Tech)
Corporate Office, 2nd Floor, KPTCL, Kaveri Bhavan, Bengaluru-560009. Ph: 080-22243926

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDER (Through KPP portal only)

BWSSB invites Tenders from eligible contractors for the following Works:

Office of the Chief Engineer (West), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K. G. Road, Bangalore-09.

Division	IFT Number	Amount Put to Tender / EMD Amount	Last date & Time for submission of tender	Date & Time for opening of tender
West-1	BWSSB/ EE(W)-1/PB/ 1602/2025-26 Dt: 16.08.2025	Rs.4,87,331/- / Rs.12,200/-	26-08-2025 upto 4.00 p.m.	28-08-2025 after 11.30 a.m.

Sd/- Executive Engineer (West)-1.

The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** For further details contact the signed office during working hours.

DIPR/CP/AAPL/RO2356/25-26

Student found dead in hostel at BITS Pilani Goa campus

PANAJI, PTI: A 20-year-old student of the BITS Pilani campus in Goa has been found dead in his hostel room, police said on Sunday.

The student, Kushagra Jain, was found lying unresponsive on his bed in a sideward sleeping position in the hostel room at Vasco in the South Goa district at around 11 am on Saturday, a senior police official said.

"We have sent the body for post-mortem, and the exact cause of death will be known after that," he said, adding that a case of unnatural death has been registered at Verna police station.

Jain, a native of Uttar Pradesh, was a third-year student of economics and computer science at the Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS)-Pilani campus in Vasco.

Quoting students, the police official said the student played table tennis on the campus the previous night before returning to his room. The room was locked from inside, and when there was no response from him on Saturday morning, the authorities were informed, who broke open the door to find him dead.

DECCAN HERALD
ESTABLISHED 1948

Dog whistling mars PM's I-Day speech

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in his 12th Independence Day address from the Red Fort, dwelt on a wide range of topics relating to national security. He also spoke about the economy, law and justice, and the needs of the youth, explaining his government's policies and actions. It is the prime minister's prerogative to speak to the nation about his concerns, hopes and expectations on one of the most important days in the national calendar. He looked back with pride and conviction on the achievements of his government and not so convincingly about the failures of others, and cast a long look on the country's bright and *viksit* future. He also flagged some imagined concerns, couching them in political and communal terms, and giving them an urgency and importance they did not deserve. Prime ministers sometimes fail to rise above their politics even when they speak from the national rostrum.

Modi rightly lauded the armed forces for Operation Sindoor and their commitment to the defence of the country, and warned its adversaries against hostile and unfriendly actions. He spoke of the need to make the country self-reliant, and underlined the importance of his Make in India, Vocal for Local and 'aatmanirbharta' policies, particularly in the economy and defence sectors. The idea has a special resonance in the wake of the May hostilities with Pakistan and the tariff war unleashed by US President Donald Trump. Modi announced a plan to develop an indigenous defence system, called Sudarshan Chakra, expected to be deployed by 2035. He also promised a Rs 1 lakh crore Rozgar Yojana for the young, invoked the symbolism of *naari shakti*, and cited the achievements of the country in various fields. The promises included next generation GST reforms, to be rolled out by Diwali, to reduce the tax burden and make goods and services cheaper.

Modi made valid points about the state of the nation and then gave in to Hindutva rhetoric

The prime minister announced the launch of a high-powered Demography Mission to address what he called a deliberate conspiracy to change the demography of the country. No proof of such a conspiracy was given and the announcement is in line with the politics of communal dog whistling that the Hindutva groups have been pursuing. It is no surprise that Modi also praised the RSS and its activities. The theme of infiltration has been used in the past electorally and politically and his announcement indicates that it will be pushed to the front in the coming days. The move goes beyond justified concerns over illegal immigration and aims to create a polarising narrative against some sections of society.

Cloudbursts signal climate emergency

Days after an extreme climate event washed away a village in Uttarkashi in Uttarakhand, leaving many dead and missing, two fresh cloudbursts have occurred in Jammu and Kashmir. As many as 65 people were killed in Chishoti village in Kishtwar district and seven people lost their lives in Jod Ghati village in Kathua district when floods caused by cloudbursts washed away many buildings. A number of people are missing. Rescue operations are continuing. The Kishtwar disaster is the biggest in recent times in Kashmir and neighbouring states. Heavy rainfall has hindered the rescue operations. More adverse weather events have been predicted.

Cloudbursts, floods and other climate disasters have hit large areas of the Himalayan region in the last few days. At least 321 people were killed when more than 10 villages in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province in Pakistan were devastated by flash flooding last week. Damaged roads and landslides have prevented rescue workers from reaching the area. Monsoon-related disasters have claimed many lives in Nepal. What binds the entire region are the Himalayan ranges, which have suffered from excessive developmental activity. Pakistan has seen devastating floods in the past few years caused by excessive rains and the melting of glaciers. It was claimed once that a third of Pakistan was under water, though this may have been an exaggeration. Nepal and Bangladesh and India's North-East have also suffered from extreme weather events such as excessive rainfall, glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs), earthquakes and droughts.

Serial disasters in the Himalayan region suggest we may be hurtling to a point of no return

All this is said to be the result of climate change aggravated by deforestation and construction activity. More and more houses, buildings and roads are being built and forests are being cleared for residential and commercial use. Vegetation lines have shifted and biodiversity is under stress. Lives and livelihoods are in danger. It will take many generations to rebuild the land and forests now being destroyed. The fragile nature of the Himalayan ecology is well known but the knowledge has not translated into policies and action. Over a billion people rely on the Himalayas for their livelihood and the essentials of life, such as water, food, and energy. The signs of stress are getting worse every year and we will soon reach a stage when reversing the situation will be difficult. A politician expressed the situation in Kishtwar in poignant poetry: "The hills mourn, the birds wait in despair, the winds howl warnings, and the rivers weep—nature is screaming for justice". But governments and politicians have not cared much about justice for nature.

COURT VS COURTS

A crisis of accountability in the judiciary

With the Justice Prashant Kumar saga exposing the fault lines, the Supreme Court and the high courts must set their houses in order

PRIYAMVADHA SHIVAJI

In 2023, a petitioner approached the Allahabad High Court seeking the recovery of overdue payments due to them from a textile firm.

Ordinarily, the case would have followed a similar course as that of nearly 44 lakh pending civil cases in India. However, the decision of Justice Prashant Kumar to allow criminal proceedings against the textile firm sparked a series of actions, which ultimately exposed the inherent crisis in the Indian judiciary: Who is truly at fault for wrong decisions and how can accountability be imposed?

The Supreme Court routinely deals with appeals challenging the validity of orders from the High Courts. On a daily basis, many orders are passed that often overturn High Court decisions on the grounds of incorrect application of law or facts.

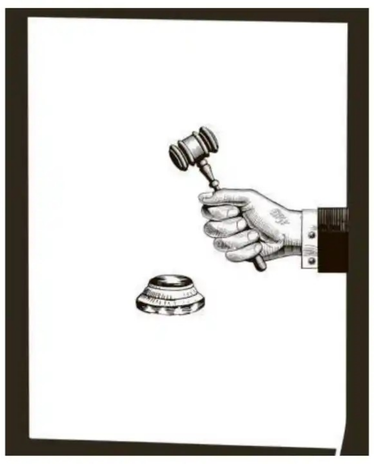
However, this instance saw Justices J B Pardiwala and R Mahadevan going above and beyond to reprimand the High Court judge, directing the Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court to ensure that Justice Kumar would only be allowed to hear non-criminal matters and in the presence of a senior judge on the bench.

Naturally, the decision incited protests from the Allahabad High Court, which saw the penalties as a curtailment of their independent administrative authority, and the Supreme Court has since walked back its order on penalties while continuing to maintain its deprecation of Justice Kumar's decision. The saga, however, only exposes what has come to be a worrying feature of the Indian judiciary - the tensions in exercising administrative authority.

Article 141 of the Constitution establishes jurisprudential superintendence of the Supreme Court over all other courts. However, the Constitution does not confer a similar administrative superintendence. Article 145 states that the Supreme Court shall make rules regarding its own practice and procedure and Article 225 confers similar power upon High Courts.

In practice, the Chief Justice of India and the Chief Justices of the High Courts have untrammelled power to decide administrative issues regarding the Supreme Court and their respective High Courts, particularly in the absence of codified rules or guidelines.

Notably, these "Masters of the Roster" have the power to decide which judges shall hear which cases. In some instances, this power may be visibly misused. For example, the judges' conference in 2019, where four then-judges of the Supreme Court publicly aired their grievances against the manner in which the roster was decided by the then-Chief Justice of India, is a striking example of how unchecked administrative control can lead to internal fault lines being put on display.



But the order passed by Justices Pardiwala and Mahadevan censuring Justice Kumar exposes an additional concern: the potential of Supreme Court judges encroaching upon the administrative powers of the Chief Justice of a HC.

Currently, all except two sitting judges of the Supreme Court have been elevated from the High Court benches, and were often Chief Justices themselves.

As High Court judges and Chief Justices, they dealt with lakhs of cases that came up on appeal from the district judiciary, and which were required to be overturned at the High Courts for erroneous applications of law.

Plenty of HC and SC judges have often expressed dismay at shortcomings in district court judgements. However, public reprimands of the nature imposed in this instance are rare. One could argue that HC judges would be required to face more scrutiny by virtue of their status as courts of appeal from the district courts. However, the administrative hierarchy in India does not permit direct interventions from the SC to correct this gap.

This is not to say that the only accountability that may be imposed for wrong decisions is judicial correction upon appeal. The responsibility lies with the HCs to ensure that such instances do not arise.

Other judges of the Allahabad High Court, who signed a petition to the Chief Justice seeking that the Supreme Court's censuring of Justice Kumar did not take effect, recognised the administrative overreach of the decision; however, the underlying legal issues highlighted by the Supreme Court cannot be simultaneously brushed aside.

One of the administrative areas within the control of the High Courts is the need for continuous training for judges. However, in practice, judges at the High Court level do not receive regular training or forums for peer discussion and introspection. A possible solution - which would centre the need for improving judicial application of mind and removing the possibility of such wrongful orders while safeguarding the administrative independence of the High Courts - would be to institute periodic training programmes, helping judges analyse cases, share feedback and consolidate their legal and practical knowledge.

Requiring a High Court judge to be effectively supervised by a senior judge on the bench is naturally unpalatable to judges; however, the benefit of sharing knowledge and insights independently through focused discussions must also be acknowledged.

Need for a unified front

In the current instance, it fell to the Chief Justice of India to take cognisance and request a re-hearing of the matter, which Justices Pardiwala and Mahadevan have since agreed to. The judges clarified that their intention was not to supersede the administrative authority of the High Court Chief Justice, but to maintain legal standards in order to strengthen public trust in the judiciary.

For maintaining public trust in transparent and efficient justice, the Supreme Court and the High Courts cannot be at odds with each other. The pendency problem burdening the Indian judiciary continues to worsen, with multiple cases adding to its workload.

In the saga involving the Supreme Court and the High Courts, the parties to the case in question have largely been forgotten in public discourse. The petitioner's request for overdue payments is still pending. The Indian judiciary must set its own house in order, so that the people knocking on its door ultimately receive justice.

(The writer is a senior resident fellow, Justice Access and Lowering Delays in India (JALDI) Initiative, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy)

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

Jingle of the *Jingala*

Unknowingly, we internalised the nuances of Karnatic Music

S SRINATH

With great pride, I promptly announced to my school friends that peppy songs sung by Kishore Kumar and Asha Bhonsle would soon be playing at our home. Our joint family was getting a brand-new Phillips Stereo player! Melodies from *Yadoon ki Bharaat*, *Jawani Diwani* and *Hare Rama Hare Krishna* were the toast of the season. We cousins had a long, dreamy chat about the possibilities. Gopal, my bench-mate in Class 5, asked whether *Bangarada Manushya* would also feature. I brushed him aside!

A sleek gramophone player did arrive, along with a set of six gleaming black records. Though she did not say much, Ajji was clearly pleased that the very first was M S Subbalakshmi's *Venkatesha Suprabhata*. But our faces fell as the rest of the stack was unpacked. They were all Karnatic music albums--G N Balasubramaniam, M L Vasanthakumari, Chembai, Madurai Mani Iyer. No filmy songs at all. We could not even pronounce the artiste's names. Being children, we were disappointed, but quickly moved on. Mercifully, my classmates never asked for updates.

Over the next few years, the stereo became part of our home. Its speakers regularly filled the air with the music of artistes we boys never bothered to identify. New LPs and EPs arrived at regular intervals--most of them pure classical fare. Purandaradasa and the Trinity were all there.

Involuntarily, our ear absorbed this music, day in and day out. Unknowingly, we internalised the nuances of the songs and ragas. My father, a devoted listener, would repeatedly play the sonorous voice of M D Ramanatha's *Parapaalaya* on AIR *Geetharadhana*. My paternal Uncle, a self-taught connoisseur, had a melodious voice and loved imitating the legendary singers of yore-- both their style and mannerism.

Thanks to this upbringing, my taste for quality music grew immensely. Today, my mind and body simply refuse to accept mediocre renditions of *kritis*. I can separate the wheat from the chaff in an instant. Concealing a frown Raagam24/7 broadcasts a poorly rendered *Pantuvarali* is now quite a challenge.

I sometimes wonder how life might have turned out if my uncle had, at the very start, brought records of Lata Mangeshkar, Md Rafi and P B Srinivas--all legendary playback singers. We did hear them outside but not at home.

Somewhere along the way, I developed a strange addiction: my listening is incomplete until I have identified the singer, the *raga*, and the *swara* of any new song I hear. This compulsive habit still baffles me. Mining these little details enhances my joy many times over. Yet, it is humbling to realise that in this vast universe of Karnatic music, I now know less and less about more and more.

At this moment, I am listening to a song in *Jingala raga* that had eluded me for years—Saint Thyagaraja's *AnaathuDanu Gaanu*. Understanding its inner meaning may take a lifetime, or at least until the next song arrives. Till then, I assure myself, I will keep jingling the *Jingala*!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Threats, blackmail can't bring about peace

The recent meeting between US President Donald Trump and Ruassia's Vladimir Putin did not yield any significant results, and Trump's tactics of bluff and blackmail failed yet again. His threat to Putin that failure to reach an agreement would have formidable consequences should have naturally irritated Putin, who had agreed to meet Trump on his invitation. A successful arbitrator requires skills of persuasion, patience, perseverance, and thorough insight into the issues involved. Trump's tariff terrorism has not worked with India and Europe, and Russia was not intimidated either. It was thoughtless to exclude Ukraine from the negotiations initially. Trump's desire for sole credit led him to ignore several European countries that offered their good offices for the peace mission.

S V Venkatakrishnan, Bengaluru

Rehab the reformed

This refers to 'Life after the gun: Why surrender does not mean peace' (Aug 17). The challenges faced by those who surrender to the authorities and attempt to reintegrate into society are indeed steep. While the government issues calls to extremists to lay down their arms and promises rehabilitation, the reality is that the stigma of the past continues to haunt them. They face hostile receptions when applying for jobs or trying to rebuild their lives. If the government reneges on its promises or loses interest in the welfare of those who have surrendered, it is likely to force them back into extremism.

C V Aravind, Bengaluru

Go beyond GI

Apropos 'Crafting controversy: Rethinking protection for India's arts' (Aug 17), the exploitation of India's traditional crafts by global fashion houses should be stopped. Many international brands replicate indigenous motifs, embroidery, and weaving techniques without acknowledgment or fair payment. This raises concerns about cultural ownership, benefit sharing, and the legal protection of centuries-old crafts. The GI tags are a step in the right direction, but more needs to be done to prevent the commodification of India's treasured crafts.

N Sadhasiva Reddy, Bengaluru

Our readers are welcome to email letters to: **letters@deccanherald.co.in** (only letters emailed – not handwritten – will be accepted). All letters must carry the sender's postal address and phone number.

SPEAK OUT

..Rahul Gandhi is exactly playing the role of Muhammad Ali Jinnah...I strongly believe that if PM Modi were in place of Jawaharlal Nehru, Pakistan would not have existed...

Numal Momin,
Assam Assembly Deputy Speaker

It's better to be absolutely ridiculous than absolutely boring.

Marilyn Monroe

TO BE PRECISE

When the last photographer packs up at the Alaska venue...

IN PERSPECTIVE

Meat and ban: The politics on my plate

The prohibition on Independence Day privileges vegetarian customs under the guise of public order

JOHN J KENNEDY

As India marked its 79th Independence Day, a crucial question resurfaced, begging reflection: What does freedom truly mean if something as personal as what we eat can be regulated and restricted by civic orders? This year, municipal corporations in parts of Maharashtra and Telangana imposed bans on meat shops and slaughterhouses on Independence Day, a secular national holiday. These bans raise profound concerns about the erosion of fundamental rights, the privileging of specific cultural and religious norms over others, and the insidious message that personal choice, especially in matters of food, is subject to public mandate.

The ban on meat sales on a day meant to celebrate freedom is a paradox in itself. Freedom is ostensibly the essence of Independence Day, yet the closure of meat shops signals a stark violation—an imposed silence not on speech or protest, but on eating meat freely. This prohibition implies an unequal valuation of food habits, privileging vegetarian customs under the guise of public order or tradition. Implicit in these bans is the subtle denigration of those who consume meat, a marginalisation camouflaged in civic responsibility. When authorities decree that meat shops must close because others may find meat consumption offensive or tempting on religious or cultural grounds, they erect a hierarchy of rights — one community's faith is deemed superior, while another's cultural and culinary freedom is suppressed.

Cultural theorist Claude Fischler famously argued that food is far more than sustenance; it is a "system of communication" and a bearer of identity and community. To dictate what one can or cannot eat on certain days is not mere regulation but an intrusion into cultural autonomy and personal liberty. The meat ban on religious festivals like Janmashtami further complicates the narrative, suggesting that the faith of many is too fragile to tolerate others' dietary choices. This patronising stance not only insults diverse religious sentiments but also conflates personal virtue with public regulation.

Food critics and cultural theorists like Elizabeth David and Michael Pollan have long championed food freedom as a right to choose what to eat and a vital expression of cultural identity and personal autonomy. Pollan emphasises that food choices link us deeply to history, geography and community; they are profoundly embedded in collective memory and societal fabric. Curtailing meat consumption selectively means severing these connections arbitrarily.

Unfortunately, the ban's reasoning often rests on an assumed normalcy of vegetarianism—unspoken but present in the language: "vegetarian and non-vegetarian", implying the former is default and the latter a deviation. This linguistic framing marginalises meat-eaters, confining them to the status of 'other', fostering division along cultural and religious lines. In a nation celebrated globally for its vast and nuanced culinary traditions, imposing a ban that targets meat consumption on a day of national unity undermines India's pluralistic ethos.

The right to food choice is enshrined within the right to privacy under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution. Supreme Court judgments have underscored that individual autonomy in food consumption is intrinsic to liberty and dignity. By enforcing bans rooted in religious or cultural sentiment on secular national days, authorities risk violating constitutional principles of equality, non-discrimination and the fundamental right to freedom of religion and cultural expression. Imposing such bans without a clear, rational public purpose other than appeasing a section's sentiments is unconstitutional.

Moreover, these bans hurt the economic rights and livelihoods of communities traditionally involved in the meat trade. The bans extend their impact beyond liberty into economic injustice, disproportionately affecting marginalised sections and engendering social resentment.

Hypothetically, one might anticipate tomorrow's edicts: no chicken on Mondays, no mutton on Fridays, or vegetarian citizens bracing for no-onion, no-garlic days. Will curry pots become political battlegrounds, simmering with the threat of ordinance rather than flavour?

As contemporary scholarship shows, food freedom is pivotal to social justice and human dignity. True freedom requires resisting paternalistic bans that cloak moral judgments as civic orders. Our democracy must instead embrace food pluralism as an inviolable right, whether it is celebrated as a spicy fish curry in Kerala, a goat roast in Telangana, or a vegetarian thali in Gujarat.

In celebrating independence, we must question what it means to be free, if even the food on our plates is regulated, if the joy of choice is curtailed in the name of imposed morality. Bans on meat sales on Independence Day are not just about meat; they are about the sustenance of our freedom itself and the plurality that defines India. To eat freely every day is to claim independence, not just from colonial rule but from contemporary cultural coercion and bureaucratic overreach. The feast of freedom must be savoured in all its flavours, or it becomes a hollow ritual.

(The writer is an educator and political analyst based in Bengaluru)

The dark side of convenience: Consumer ease comes at a human price

ANANTHAPADMANABHAN

A working couple returns home late from a long commute and realises their refrigerator is empty. A teenager, pulling an all-nighter for a school project, gets a sudden craving for a late-night snack. An elderly individual, homebound due to illness, needs an urgent prescription from a pharmacy. A family hosting unexpected guests suddenly finds themselves short on refreshments. An aged mother, unable to visit her unwell daughter in the same city, sends a container of home-cooked food through a courier app.

These are not uncommon scenarios in today's fast-paced world but were simply unimaginable a few years back. For a growing number of people, a vast network of gig and platform workers is available to fulfil these needs at a moment's notice.

The quick commerce industry has fundamentally changed how consumers shop, offering features like real-time tracking and flexible delivery time slots. This affordability, along with a ten-minute home delivery guarantee that is now a common assurance offered by a majority of platforms, raises a significant question: is the current gig economy model, celebrated for its flexibility and autonomy, truly sustainable, or does it prioritise corporate profit and consumer convenience over the dignity, well-being, and fundamental human rights of the workers who power it?

Advocates of the gig economy suggest it offers a modern approach to work, providing benefits that align with key factors of employee satisfaction. Research on worker welfare highlights that having control over one's schedule, a sense of autonomy, and a clear link between effort and reward are major drivers of job happiness. The gig model, in its ideal form, offers exactly this. Workers can often choose their own hours, allowing them to balance their professional and personal lives. This perspective holds that any issues with worker conditions are part of the industry's growing pains and can be addressed over time without changing the fundamental model of work.

However, this vision of a flexible future faces considerable challenges when measured against the experiences of platform workers.

A recent audit by the Rajdhani App Workers' Union, alongside insights from academic studies, presents a compelling counter-argument that the current system is not adequately designed to protect its workforce. Its findings highlighted serious issues with basic facilities, dignity, and dialogue. For example, in the National Capital Region, only 67% of warehouses had usable toilets, a quarter lacked safe drinking water, and 30% had no designated rest areas for workers. A lack of dialogue further complicates this, as platform companies allegedly change pay rates and insurance schemes with a simple notification on an app, unlike the usual tripartite meetings that would precede such decisions in a factory setting.

According to a NITI Aayog report, India's gig workforce is estimated at 12 million in FY 2024-2025 and is projected to grow to 23.5 million by 2029-30. The gig economy is expected to contribute 1.25% to the GDP by 2030 with a work volume of $250 billion. The cause for concern is that 90% of gig workers lack savings and are highly vulnerable to economic shocks.

A crucial challenge is the legal classification of gig workers as "independent contractors", which often means they miss out on basic protections like a minimum wage, paid leave, and social security benefits.

Data from the Fairwork project indicates that only 21.8% of platform workers earned the local minimum wage after accounting for their costs. The pressure to reach that wage is significant: the percentage of workers who had to put in more than 48 hours a week to earn minimum wage went up from about 60% to about 84% in four years, a finding that challenges the notion of "part-time" gig work.

Furthermore, the net earnings of platform workers are often less than the least paid formal workers, with no additional benefits like gratuity or bonus.

The power dynamic in the platform economy is often highly imbalanced, with algorithms seeming to control both customers and gig workers. For workers, these algorithms act as a digital manager, influencing everything from task assignment and payment to performance ratings. This constant monitoring and algorithmic control reduces the flexibility often attributed to "gig work".

Such relentless digital oversight, which dictates every move from acceptance to completion, removes the very autonomy that the gig economy promises.

The issue is also reportedly more pronounced for women, who, despite entering these domains in sizeable numbers, are often overlooked in conversations about social protection. The lack of a proper mechanism for reporting harassment makes them particularly vulnerable, which, in turn, reduces workers to cogs in a machine, with no recourse or redressal.

A truly just society can't exist when our convenience is built on a hidden human cost. This reality demands a deeper ethical consideration from us all.

(The author is an independent writer)

Ecuador's ecological progress is threatened by a series of reforms steamrolled by Daniel Noboa, its young populist president

CÉSAR RODRÍGUEZ-GARAVITO AND ROBERT MACFARLANE

AP

The most eco-imaginative country under assault

High in the Ecuadorean Andes is a cloud forest that is home to hundreds of endangered, extraordinary creatures, many of which seem to have wandered straight out of the paintings of Hieronymus Bosch — among them the spiny pocket mouse, the Dracula orchid, the glass frog and the tourmaline sunangel hummingbird. Numerous clear-running rivers rise in this mist-wreathed region, their flows nourished by the process of condensation and runoff called continuous fog drop. Walking through the humid, glowing greens of this cloud forest — known as Los Cedros — is what walking through damp moss might feel like if you had been miniaturised.

Four years ago, Los Cedros was nearly destroyed by gold and copper mining projects. But in November 2021, something remarkable happened to avert this catastrophe — something that could, in fact, only have occurred in Ecuador. The country's Constitutional Court issued a landmark judgement that recognised Los Cedros as both a legal person and a rights-bearing entity — and ruled that the proposed mining projects would violate those rights. The mining companies were required to remedy the damage they had caused and then quit the area. They were gone within 10 days.

That groundbreaking decision is just one of the ways in which Ecuador has played an outsize role in the global politics of nature. For almost two decades this small country has pioneered new ways of imagining and legislating the human relationship with other life on Earth — and inspired similar innovations around the world.

Now, however, that ecological progress is under severe threat from a series of reforms steamrolled by Ecuador's young populist president, Daniel Noboa. Noboa is the heir to an agribusiness empire, and came to power with the promise of combating organised crime. His reforms will throw Ecuador's stunning landscapes open to mining and drilling, dismantle government agencies in the name of "efficiency," target public officials and civic organisations that he claims obstruct his agenda and concentrate broad emergency powers in his own hands.

Together these measures amount to the most serious assault on environmental protection and constitutional integrity in Ecuador's recent history. They also come at a perilous moment for a country where violence toward environmental activists is now also rising.

Noboa's first and boldest step was to dissolve the Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition on July 24 and hand its powers to the Ministry of Energy and Mines. This leaves Ecuador without an independent institution to protect its extraordinary ecosystems.

Five days later, his government introduced the so-called foundations law—an emergency bill that would allow the government to monitor and even shut down civil society organisations for "any activity that violates the fundamental rights of individuals, public order or state security." Such broad powers echo now-defunct regulations that former president Rafael Correa used to persecute and dissolve environmental organisations a decade ago. While the government claims that the law is aimed at combating money laundering and criminal activity, it has not hidden the fact that it also targets environmental organisations that criticise its economic policies.

Noboa's third step took the form of a law concerning protected ecological areas, which opens the door to the privatisation of national parks and forest reserves and strips local communities of powers to manage them.

Because many of these measures are clearly unconstitutional, they have already been challenged before the Constitutional Court, which may strike down or force changes to parts of this disastrous legal package. But Noboa's administration has already attacked the court in public and proposed a referendum to change the Constitution and make dissenting judges more susceptible to impeachment. On August 12, after the court suspended some of his emergency powers, Noboa escalated the intimidation by leading a march against the court.

It's vital that the international community help Ecuadoreans resist this drastic rollback of environmental protections and assault on constitutional integrity. The world has benefited hugely from Ecuador's moral imagination when it comes to nature. The country's recognition of nature's rights in 2008 catalysed the global rights of nature movement, which has since seen New Zealand pass a parliamentary act declaring the legal personhood of the Whanganui River and the Spanish Senate recognise the rights of the vast Mar Menor lagoon.

The New York Times

Environmental groups face 'generational' setbacks

In the Biden administration, the US environmental movement reached what many of its supporters considered an apex. Congress passed the largest ever federal law to combat climate change. Coal-burning power plants were shutting down. Hundreds of billions of dollars of federal investment in renewable energy, batteries and electric vehicles was beginning to flow. But in just months, President Donald Trump has attacked much of that work.

The Biden-era climate law, known as the Inflation Reduction Act, is in tatters. The White House is trying to revive coal, the dirtiest fossil fuel, while boosting oil and gas and hindering solar and wind power. And it is weakening or trying to scrap environmental policies and regulations, some dating to 1970. The abrupt reversal in fortunes has led to a moment of crisis for the environmental community. "The morale is destroyed," said Ramon Cruz, a former president of the Sierra Club. "I won't try to sugar coat it. This is a generational loss."

After a series of stinging defeats and other challenges, some prominent environmental groups are adrift. The Sierra Club's executive director was recently fired after a rocky tenure in which he oversaw several rounds of layoffs and clashed with employees.

Greenpeace is facing a $670 million legal verdict that could put its future at risk. Rewiring America, a nonprofit group that works to electrify buildings, has slashed nearly one-third of its staff.

Actions by the Trump administration and the Republican-led Congress have set the environmental movement back years, activists said. Chief among them has been the passage of Trump's domestic policy bill, which curtailed many of the core elements of the Inflation Reduction Act. Some hope the environmental movement finds lessons in its recent losses.

Tom Steyer, a billionaire investor who has supported past efforts to mobilize climate voters and pass climate initiatives on state ballots, said the lesson of the 2024 election is that the public wants solutions that have immediate economic effects.

The New York Times

Why wisdom matters in the age of AI

VIBHAV MARIWALA

Social media is abuzz with 'influencers' showing off new artificial intelligence tools promising to optimise workflows, to stay on top of news and trends, and to make our lives more efficient. While one can optimise their work, knowledge acquisition, and even basic tasks, how do we decide what matters, and who is responsible for doing so? To harness and apply information in a relevant context is to turn knowledge into wisdom; this ability to discern is a step that requires judgement, prioritisation, and experience.

AI is not yet able to detect the subtle heuristics that humans use to guide decisions. It cannot yet read the room, anticipate unintended consequences, or adapt to the unspoken norms of a team; it can only predict possible outcomes. Wisdom shapes how we interact with clients and colleagues, how we build culture, and how we design processes to be efficient, inclusive, and adaptable.

But wisdom is also fragile. As firms undergo generational transitions, a great deal of institutional memory is being lost. Not just technical expertise, but pattern recognition and mentorship, and as holders of culture and social capital, they play an outsized role in shaping a firm's trajectory. For example, an HBR study shows that within a single organisation, approximately 700 retirements result in a loss of about 27,000 years of experience, which spans relationships with clients and partners, reputations, and the costs of onboarding new talent to transition into these new positions. The silver generation, professionals aged 50 and above, with their years of experience in an era pre-AI, will be essential to building this base. AI can help retain this wisdom and also reorient core skills and capabilities of workers. Firms, therefore, must invest in building something deeper and longer-lasting than a knowledge base, perhaps something like a wisdom base.

The challenge AI and an ageing workforce pose, therefore, is not only about navigating disruptions but also about how organisations harness their talent. Building a wisdom base means rethinking the role that experienced workers can play as they retire, restructuring hierarchies, and finally, the nature of employment itself to allow for these nuances to flourish.

Corporate leaders have begun emphasising the importance of critical thinking, communication and emotional intelligence in their employees. For example, Bill Winters, chief executive officer of Standard Chartered Bank, has argued that his liberal arts degree has become more valuable than his MBA because the former taught him to critically think.

Ironically, a virtual world, where information is available all the time, has forced people to be more present to get ahead. For example, in the United States, to overcome cheating and to meaningfully test students' engagement with content, professors are reverting to handwritten or oral exams.

Similarly, offices are pushing their workers to return to the office to learn from their peers and pick up these subtle traits. Such skills help ensure relationships within and outside of a company are maintained and built on, while also ensuring firm values are continuously embedded across employees.

AI will continue to play a crucial role in such a process, not by replacing wisdom, but by democratising access to it. If anything, it can help structure and preserve the experiences of the silver generation. At McKinsey, for example, an internal generative AI tool pieces together insights from thousands of past reports, making it easier for teams to access institutional knowledge.

In 2023 alone, it reduced employees' research time by about 30%. AI has become a means to access knowledge more efficiently, while the application and interpretation of these insights still depend on human judgement and experience. For example, the scaffolding for a client presentation can be built using this AI tool, but the experience of dealing with a client comes down to the firm's wisdom base.

In a world where the nature of work is ever changing, wisdom bases are critical to building organisational success. Artificial intelligence has upended the way we work today and will continue to do so.

Nonetheless, the experience of those that built their careers prior to the advent of artificial intelligence will get harder to capture, and those nuances will get lost to a world overwhelmed with information.

(The writer is a senior policy advisor at WisdomCircle)

OUR PAGES OF HISTORY

50 YEARS AGO: AUGUST 1975

Mujib killed in army coup

Calcutta, August 17
Military-backed government, headed by Mr. Khondakar Mushtaque Ahmed, assumed office and proclaimed martial law in Bangla Desh yesterday after a bloody early morning coup in which President Mujibur Rehman and Prime Minister Mohammed Mansoor Ali were killed. Radio Bangla Desh, in a broadcast monitored here, said that Mr. Ahmed was sworn in as the new President at a ceremony attended by the chiefs of all three services. It also announced imposition of a 24-hour curfew in the country and claimed that mass prayers were held throughout Bangla Desh for the success of the new Government.

25 YEARS AGO: AUGUST 2000

IAF man held for B'lore blast

Bangalore, Aug 17
In a significant breakthrough, the Corps of Detectives (CoD) today arrested a Junior Warrant Officer of the Indian Air Force (IAF) based in New Delhi in connection with the blast in a City church on July 9. The accused IAF officer, Syed Hassan Ur Zaman, was also found passing on sensitive information on vital Indian defence installations to his contacts in Pakistan. With this, it is almost certain that Pakistan's Inter Services Intelligence was backing the accused, sources told *Deccan Herald*. The accused had worked as an orderly to a former air marshal, who hailed from Andhra Pradesh in 1992-94, the sources said.

OASIS | JAMUNA RAO

The enduring power of virtue

As moral standards decline the world over there is a disdain for ethics. This is manifested in widespread corruption, violence and lawlessness. The desire to succeed, compete and be the best may well be programmed in our genes. It is perhaps necessary for survival.

Worldly success is usually associated with recognition, wealth and power. Recognition is an affirmation of the skill, appreciation, sacrifice, and talent displayed by the person, group, or institution. When a society fails to make a fair judgement of recognition the faith in excellence is eroded. This is probably the point where the rot begins.

Wealth can be something a person is born into, earned through honest enterprise, or made by unethical means. Reducing all wealth to the size of a number muddies the distinction between ethical and unethical means. The belief that means don't matter takes root and has serious consequences for society.

Power is a double edged weapon. Even sages who gain it through harsh sacrifices pay a price for misusing it. For the ordinary mortal the line between the use and misuse of power is always difficult to draw.

In this atmosphere dominated by cynicism it is easy to miss the calming effect of virtue. Even as morality and ethics change with time and across societies, the concepts they are derived from remain. Truth, justice, wisdom and moderation are valid at all times. Truth and justice create a fair-minded society. They build integrity. Even as heroism makes a person push beyond barriers, wisdom tells us when to pull back. It is perhaps the most important of virtues. Moderation checks anger, hate and the desire for revenge. It checks both fear and favour.

Virtue builds a society where recognition, wealth, and power can be enjoyed honourably. The individual who lives a virtuous life transcends the desire for recognition, wealth and power. The individual becomes endowed to handle all that there is with equanimity. Such perfect virtuosity may not be common. More frequently, individuals may have ignored aspects of virtue while pursuing recognition, wealth and power. There are no limits to these worldly goals. As Elon Musk's actions tell us even the world's richest man would want more. But there is a point, usually towards the end of a person's life, where there is a recognition of the limits of what the world has to offer. At that point the mind moves back to truth, justice, wisdom and moderation. Virtue has the last word.

BIHAR REVISION: Poll panel says info posted within 56 hours of SC order; rebuts criticism

EC uploads names of 65 lakh deleted voters

SHEMIN JOY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The list of around 65 lakh names removed from Bihar's draft electoral rolls following the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) has been posted on the websites of District Magistrates "within 56 hours" of the Supreme Court's order, along with reasons for the deletions, Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar said on Sunday.

He added that the list is "searchable" by Electoral Photo Identity Card (EPIC) numbers, as mandated by the SC, and insisted that the apex court has not directed the EC to provide "machine-readable" lists, which are different. He said that in 2019, the SC had made it clear that sharing machine-readable voter lists could compromise voter privacy.

Exercise timing

Addressing a press conference, Kumar said that the Bihar SIR is aimed at removing all "shortcomings" in the existing voters' list, as he defended the timing of the exercise, which was held just ahead of the Assembly elections.

Responding to a question about why the EC omitted Arunachal Pradesh and Maharashtra from the intensive revision exercise in 2004 due to upcoming elections, but proceeded with it in Bihar during an election year, Kumar said the Representation of the People Act mandates updating electoral rolls before every election. "The EC's mantra is to include all eligible voters and remove all ineligible ones from the rolls," he said.

Over 10 SIRs have been conducted across the country so far to purify voter lists, and the latest exercise was necessitated by complaints from several parties and increased voter migration within the country.

Admitting that errors may exist and that, knowingly or unknowingly, some people have ended up with multiple voter cards due to migration and other factors, Kumar said the SIR would rectify such discrepancies.

Dismissing concerns about voters whose names appear at multiple locations, he said it doesn't matter as people can exercise their franchise only once.

Maharashtra criticism

Addressing allegations of irregularities in Maharashtra, Kumar questioned why no claims or objections were raised during the draft roll stage.

"When the results came, suddenly they remembered the rolls were wrong? Not a single objection backed by evidence has been filed with the Maharashtra CEO. The elections took place eight months ago. Why was no election petition filed?"

He also objected to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi sharing photographs of voters. "A few days ago, several voters' photos were made public without their consent. Should the EC make public voters' photos," he asked.

ELECTION COMMISSION

"It is a matter of grave concern that some parties and their leaders are spreading misinformation on SIR in Bihar... some political parties are firing from the Election Commission's shoulder. The EC exhorts all political parties to file claims and objections on draft electoral rolls in Bihar ... 15 days are still remaining. Doors of the Election Commission are open to everyone, and booth-level officers and agents are working together in a transparent manner

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi with RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav during a rally as part of his 'Voter Adhikar Yatra', in Sasaram. PTI

Won't allow EC to 'steal' Bihar polls: Rahul kicks off yatra

ABHAY KUMAR
PATNA

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Sunday launched another sharp attack on the Election Commission, saying, "We will not allow the EC to repeat in Bihar what it did for the BJP during the Maharashtra elections".

"When I expose how the EC has indulged in vote theft and helped the BJP win one election after another, it asks me to submit an affidavit. But when a BJP leader makes similar allegations, the EC remains silent, and no one asks the ruling party member to submit an affidavit," said the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, adding that they are not afraid of the EC and will continue to expose its wrongdoings in the name of SIR (Special Intensive Revision) in Bihar.

Rahul was speaking at the launch of his 1,300-km-long 'Voter Adhikar Yatra' (Voters' Rights March) from Sasaram on Sunday. Over the next 15 days, the yatra will traverse 22 of Bihar's 38 districts, covering 60 Assembly constituencies, and will culminate in Patna, where the Congress and its allies in the I.N.D.I.A bloc plan to hold a massive rally on September 1 against the alleged nexus between the BJP and the EC.

Flanked by Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, RJD president Lalu Prasad, CPI-ML leader Dipankar Bhattacharya, CPM's Subhashini Ali and RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav, Rahul said the entire country is now aware of the EC's 'vote theft', and its latest conspiracy is to steal the polls in Bihar.

"We all know how some names are being deleted and others added in the name of SIR. This is part of a larger conspiracy to rig the elections. But the people of Bihar are politically conscious and will not allow the EC to succeed in its design," he said.

To support his claim, Rahul cited the case of Maharashtra, where the I.N.D.I.A bloc won 30 out of 48 Lok Sabha seats during the 2024 parliamentary elections. "But just a few months later, during the Assembly polls, the same I.N.D.I.A bloc was routed while the BJP-led alliance swept the elections. This was made possible through vote theft, by adding one crore new voters who never existed," he charged.

The EC refuted all such allegations, saying that the draft voters' list in Bihar is available in the public domain. "The SIR exercise in the state is intended to purify the electoral roll. If any genuine voter has been left out, they may apply for rectification until August 30. Our aim is to ensure that no eligible voter is excluded, and that no ineligible voter is included," said an EC official.

'EC stands exposed': Opposition on poll panel's defence

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Opposition on Sunday slammed the Election Commission (EC) over its response to the allegations of "vote theft", even as Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar rejected the claims against the electoral process as "baseless".

Congress general secretary (communications) Jairam Ramesh said the country was waiting and watching to see how the poll body would implement the Supreme Court's directions on the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in letter and spirit.

"Today, a short while after Rahul Gandhi launched the I.N.D.I.A bloc's 'Voter Adhikar Yatra' from Bihar's Sasaram, the CEC and his two ECs began by saying they make no distinction between the ruling party and the Opposition. This is laughable, to put it very mildly, in the face of mountains of evidence to the contrary. Notably, the CEC answered none of the pointed questions raised by Rahul Gandhi meaningfully," he said.

"As far as the CEC's threats to Rahul Gandhi are concerned, all that needs to be said is that the LoP in the Lok Sabha had simply stated facts revealed by the EC's own data. The EC stands thoroughly exposed not only for its incompetence but also for its blatant partisanship," he said.

He said it was the first time this "new" EC was speaking directly. "Yesterday, the EC released a 'Press Note', the purpose of which was to place the onus of voter-list correction on political parties and individuals. This Press Note has also been met with uniform criticism from the Opposition parties and widespread criticism from the public," he said.

"Today's press conference also came three days after the Supreme Court had rejected every single one of the arguments made by the EC to prevent the publication of the 65 lakh deleted voters during the Bihar SIR. Despite the vehement and documented objections of the EC, the Supreme Court directed the publication, in a searchable format, of these 65 lakh voters with all their details," said Ramesh, adding: "It also allowed the use of Aadhaar as proof of a voter's identity."

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav said that when the EC takes the "right course", support of crores of Indians will become its shield.

"The EC needs not just reforms but a complete transformation... We understand that it faces various unwarranted pressures, but it must not think it stands alone," he said in a statement.

TRINAMOOL CONGRESS

"We also want not a single name of dead voters is retained in electoral rolls. Then how come the 2024 general elections were held based on the same voter list? The EC must clarify if the 2024 elections were then carried by flawed voters list as iterated by our leader Abhishek Banerjee?

DIGVIJAYA SINGH
Congress leader

"The ECI is today working completely as an arm of the BJP. To save democracy, it is necessary to prove this at every polling booth and work together for fair elections.

EC will respond, not me: Gopi on charges of poll roll manipulation

THRISSUR (KERALA), PTI: Union Minister Suresh Gopi on Sunday said there is no need for him to answer to the voters' list manipulation charges raised by the Congress and the Left parties, and the Election Commission of India would give them a reply in this regard.

Gopi said he is a minister, and he is delivering his responsibilities well.

While replying to reporters' questions, the BJP leader also termed the persons who have raised voters' list manipulation charges against him as "vanaras" (monkeys).

"The Election Commission will give a reply to this (allegations). It is the EC who should answer. I am a minister. I am delivering my duties well. Otherwise, they will get a reply when they take the matter to the Supreme Court," Gopi said.

It is for the first time that Gopi was responding to the allegations of voters' list manipulation charges against him and the BJP in connection with the Lok Sabha polls last year.

In the morning, the Union minister garlanded the statue of the erstwhile ruler of the kingdom of Kochi, Shakthan Thampuran.

Later in the day, District Congress Committee (DCC) president Joseph Tajet came down heavily on Suresh Gopi over his 'vanara' remarks, stating that the Congress party's culture does not permit them to respond in the same language.

BJD supremo Naveen Patnaik hospitalised, condition stable

BHUBANESWAR, PTI: BJD chief and Leader of the Opposition in Odisha Assembly, Naveen Patnaik, was admitted to a private hospital here on Sunday due to dehydration. His health condition is stated to be stable.

"Shri Naveen Patnaik was admitted to SUM Ultimate Medicare, Bhubaneswar, at 5.15 pm today due to dehydration. His condition is stable and he is responding well to treatment," a bulletin issued by the hospital said.

The 78-year-old former chief minister had complained of uneasiness on Saturday night, and some doctors had visited his residence, party leaders said. BJD leaders had earlier said that he was admitted due to age-related ailments.

"I came to know about the illness of the opposition leader, Honourable @Naveen_Odisha. I pray to Lord Shri Jagannath for his speedy recovery and good health," Odisha CM Mohan Charan Majhi posted on X.

'Shinde won political lottery': Maha minister creates flutter

PALGHAR, PTI: Maharashtra Forest Minister and BJP MLA Ganesh Naik has caused a flutter by stating that Shiv Sena leader Eknath Shinde had won a "lottery", apparently referring to his appointment as chief minister in 2022, noting that people observe how a person "earns" his position and retains it.

Naik on Sunday said he would address a Janata Darbar in Thane, the home turf of Shinde, on August 22, an announcement that could raise the hackles of Shinde-led Shiv Sena.

"Eknath Shinde (current deputy CM) had won a lottery. Not everyone has to win the lottery, but Shinde won it. However, what matters is how a person achieves a position and retains it, and common people observe this," Naik said on Friday at an event.

This is not the first time Naik, who represents the Airoli constituency in Thane district, has targeted Shinde.

In July, he had alleged that outsiders were exploiting Navi Mumbai's resources, without naming Shinde, the guardian minister of Thane district.

Shiv Sena had hit back by accusing Naik of trying to deflect attention from his own long-standing hold over the city's affairs.

Parliament logjam likely as Monsoon Session nears end

On-floor decisions expected from I.N.D.I.A bloc

NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Monsoon Session of Parliament will resume on Monday after a brief break, but there are no signs of a thaw between the Union government and the Opposition, with the former now listing a special discussion in the Lok Sabha on India's space programme after declining the demand for a debate on the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

The session, which was adjourned on Tuesday to reopen on August 18, is scheduled to conclude on August 21, the same day nominations for the election to the post of vice-president are due.

Incidentally, the first day of the session, July 21, saw the previous vice-president, Jagdeep Dhankhar, resigning from the post, citing health reasons.

The last four days are also expected to see the I.N.D.I.A bloc discussing a candidate to be fielded against that of the BJP-led NDA.

On Monday, the I.N.D.I.A bloc's floor leaders will reportedly meet to discuss floor strategy, and the issue of the coalition's V-P candidate may come up.

The Lok Sabha has listed a "Special Discussion on India's First Astronaut Aboard the International Space Station – Critical Role of Space Programme for Viksit Bharat by 2047" on Monday, a day after astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla, who was on the ISS, returned to India.

The alliance will also decide on whether to participate in the discussion at the meeting of its floor leaders.

While the government passed a slew of Bills amid din last week, there has been very little debate in both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha owing to the Opposition's protests.

For Monday, the government has listed the introduction of the Jan Vishwas (Amendment) Bill, 2025, which will be referred to a Select Committee, and the Indian Institutes of Management (Amendment) Bill, 2025, in the Lok Sabha.

In the Rajya Sabha, the government has listed the Indian Ports Bill, 2025, for passage.

GST reforms: PM asks states to cooperate

NEW DELHI, DHNS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday sought states' cooperation to implement the next-generation reforms in the Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime as the Central government has already circulated the draft among them for study.

At an event after the inauguration of two expressways, Modi said the GST reform would benefit the poor and the middle class, as well as businesses.

Insisting that the Union government was keen on simplifying the GST law and revising tax rates, he said: "I hope that all states will cooperate in the initiatives of the Central government."

Modi announced the proposal to reform the GST law in his Independence Day speech on Friday from the Red Fort.

The GST Council is expected to meet next month to deliberate on the tax-reform proposal.

The current GST tax rates —zero on essential food items, 5% on daily-use products, 12% on standard goods, 18% on electronic goods and services, and 28% on luxury and sin goods — are expected to be replaced by two tax slabs of 5% and 18%, besides plus a special 40% top bracket for five to seven demerit goods.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacts with 'Shramyogis' during the inauguration of the Delhi section of the Dwarka Expressway in New Delhi on Sunday. PTI

'Vocal for local'

On Sunday, Modi also pitched for becoming "vocal for local", exhorting Indians to buy made-in-India products, stating, "If you are Indian, buy what is made in India."

He also took a swipe at Opposition leaders, saying those who "dance with a copy of the Constitution on their head" had maintained unjust and regressive laws while in power, trampling the spirit of the Constitution.

The PM also said Opposition parties had not been able to digest the BJP's success in Delhi and its adjoining states — Haryana, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh.

Dahi Handi festivities kick-start Maha local body poll campaign

MRITYUNJAY BOSE
MUMBAI, DHNS

As the Maharashtra local bodies polls approach, top politicians converged on Mumbai and the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR), using the Krishna Janmashtami-Dahi Handi festival as an outreach event.

Despite heavy rains, Dahi Handi festivities provided an energetic launch for the election campaigns.

The top leaders of the ruling Maha Yuti and the opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi took to the streets of MMR— comprising the twin districts of Mumbai City and Mumbai Suburban and neighbouring districts of Palghar, Thane and Raigad— trying to reach as many mandals as possible.

There are an estimated 800 to 1,000 big Dahi Handi mandals in the MMR.

From Worli, Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis launched the BJP's celebrations on Saturday.

"The handi of sins in Mumbai's civic body has been broken and people will replace it with a handi of development... change in the BMC is inevitable... the butter from the handi of development will be distributed to the people," Fadnavis said at Parivartan Dahi Handi Utsav 2025 at Jambori Maidan in Worli.

BJP leader and former MP Kirit Somaiya took part in human pyramid formation at the Jangal Mangal Road in Bhandup.

Meanwhile, Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde joined the festivities in Tembi Naka, his bastion in Thane.

"In Tembi Naka, the celebrations were started by late Anand Dighe Saheb... Thane has become the hub of Dahi Handi celebration," he said and hailed Operation Sindoor and Operation Mahadev.

"This is new India... we will strike deep," the Shiv Sena chief added.

Mumbai Congress president and MP Prof Varsha Gaikwad said, "This auspicious day is not only a celebration of festivity but also a reminder of the message of unity, brotherhood, justice, and love. Shri Krishna, through his life, demonstrated that no matter how powerful injustice, arrogance, and evil tendencies may be, their defeat is inevitable in the face of truth, patience, and virtue."

"Each one of us should walk the path of Krishna's teachings and light the lamp of equality, justice, and unity. On this Janmashtami, let us all come together and build a society that protects humanity and fosters harmony," the Member of Parliament from Mumbai North Central added.

SAFE BET

PhDs, postgraduates take up entry-level railway jobs

AJITH ATHRADY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

A growing number of highly educated individuals, including BTech graduates, are opting for jobs such as gangmen, gatemen and helpers in the Indian Railways, primarily due to the promise of job security, a senior railway official has said.

Since 2022, Indian Railways has recruited 1,13,977 candidates for Level-1 (L-1) category positions. These roles include gangmen (responsible for track maintenance), gatemen, pointsmen, and helpers across various departments such as electrical, mechanical, engineering, signaling, and telecommunications. The gangman is the entry-level post in the L-1 category, which is the lowest in the railway job hierarchy. At the top is the Chairman Railway Board (CRB), positioned in Level-17.

Despite the manual nature of these L-1 jobs—such as physically maintaining railway tracks using tools—they are attracting graduates, postgraduates, and even doctorate holders, the official noted.

Though the minimum qualification is a Class 10 pass or ITI for the L-1 category job, the railways says that of the 1,13,977 candidates recruited since 2022, a total of 52,709 are graduates from all streams—science, arts, commerce, and BTech.

While two candidates who have completed doctorates have also been recruited as gang men, 26,831 are 10th pass. A total of 17,680 candidates recruited are 12th pass, and 4,296 have postgraduate degrees.

There are 2,834 diploma holders, 202 postgraduate diploma holders, and 1,407 undergraduate diploma holders who also landed in this category of jobs. Interestingly, only 6,201 ITI graduates were recruited.

Recruitment saw a massive response, with over 1.11 crore applicants, of whom 43 lakh appeared for the L-1 examination, conducted in phases across 551 centres nationwide.

Some candidates recruited under compassionate grounds were either illiterate or had studied up to Classes 5–9. Among the 13 lakh workforce in the railways, recruitment for manual jobs like gangmen is always high due to their vital role in smooth operations, an official stated.

AI helps Nagpur cops solve highway horror case

NAGPUR, PTI: A week after a video showing a man carrying his wife's body on a motorcycle went viral and triggered outrage, Nagpur Police arrested the truck driver involved in the accident using artificial intelligence, an official said on Sunday.

Amit Yadav, the biker, claimed he was forced to tie his wife's body to the motorcycle as no one stopped to help after the fatal accident on the Nagpur-Jabalpur highway on August 9.

Initially, Deolapar Police had no leads on the truck driver. Officers scanned CCTV footage using AI-MARVEL (Maharashtra Advanced Research and Vigilance for Enhanced Law Enforcement), a tool used for crime prevention and investigation.

"The driver was identified as Satyapal Rajendra (28), a resident of Farrukhabad in Uttar Pradesh. The truck was seized on August 16, and the accused arrested," the official said.

According to police, Yadav and his wife Gyarsi were travelling from Lonara in Nagpur to their village Karanpur in Madhya Pradesh's Seoni district when a speeding truck hit them. Gyarsi fell and was run over as the truck fled.

Yadav said he pleaded with passing motorists, but no one stopped. Left with no option, he tied his wife's body to the pillion seat and began the journey home.

A police van later intercepted the motorcycle and took the body to Indira Gandhi Medical College in Nagpur for post-mortem.

Not all violations of direction call for contempt proceedings: Delhi HC

Says initiation of proceedings is a serious matter, should not be resorted to ordinarily

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

In a significant observation in a case related to the supply of an Intelligence Bureau (IB) report to Uttarakhand-cadre IFS officer Sanjiv Chaturvedi, the Delhi High Court said that the violation of each and every direction issued by it does not call for the initiation of contempt proceedings.

A bench of Justices Anil Kshetarpal and Harish Vaidyanathan said this while passing this order on August 12 when hearing a contempt petition filed by Chaturvedi, who alleged repeated wilful disobedience of orders issued by a division bench to the IB's Central Public Information Officer (CPIO) to bring before the court relevant records including the IB report on the officer.

The bench, in its order, also said that contempt proceedings could not be initiated against an office since the respondent had not even provided the name of the contemnor.

"The initiation of contempt proceedings is a serious matter, and should not be resorted to ordinarily. The bench, while hearing the appeal, possesses sufficient power to compel a party to the litigation to produce documents. However, violation of each and every direction issued by the bench does not call for initiation of contempt proceedings," said the bench in its order.

The division bench first issued these orders to the IB on July 27, 2023, and then on August 21, 2024.

However, as per the contempt petition, the IB CPIO did not produce these records before the court, and hence he had sought initiation of contempt proceedings against the officer for wilful disobedience of court orders.

The dispute began in May 2014 when the then Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEF& CC) secretary wrote a letter to then IB director for a report on the assessment of the threat to Chaturvedi's life. However, the ministry declined to give this report to the officer under RTI Act.

In April 2016, on an appeal by Chaturvedi, the Central Information Commission ordered the IB CPIO to provide a copy of the report to him. The IB challenged this order before the Delhi High Court. In a detailed order passed in August 2017, the IB appeal was dismissed.

After that, the IB moved an appeal before division bench in October 2017, which is being heard.

SC takes note of cadets injured during military training

NEW DELHI, PTI: The Supreme Court has taken suo motu cognisance of difficulties faced by cadets, who were medically discharged from military institutes on account of disabilities suffered during training programmes.

A bench of Justices BV Nagarathna and R Mahadevan will hear the case on Monday, which was registered on August 12 after a media report flagged the issue of these cadets, who were once part of training at the nation's top military institutes, such as the National Defence Academy (NDA) and Indian Military Academy (IMA).

According to the media report, there are around 500 officer cadets who have been medically discharged from these military institutes since 1985 due to varying degrees of disability incurred during training and are now staring at mounting medical bills with an ex gratia monthly payment that's far short of what they need.

It said at the NDA alone, there are around 20 such cadets who were medically discharged in just five years, between 2021 and July 2025.

The media report further highlighted the plight of these cadets because, as per rules, they are not entitled to the status of ex-servicemen (ESM), which would have made them eligible under the Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS) for free treatment at military facilities and empanelled hospitals, since their disabilities took place during training before they were commissioned as officers.

Conch blowing could help alleviate snoring: Study

KALYAN RAY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Blowing a conch shell (shankh) is a practice that millions of Indians follow every day. Do it for 15 minutes daily, and chances are high that one will get rid of a major sleep disorder associated with loud snoring and daytime sleepiness, Indian medical researchers have found.

A proof-of-concept study by doctors in Jaipur reveals that people who practise blowing through a conch shell regularly for six months have experienced a reduction in their obstructive sleep apnoea (OSA) symptoms.

The OSA is a common sleep disorder where breathing repeatedly stops during the night due to a blocked airway. It leads to loud snoring, restless sleep and daytime sleepiness.

During a clinical practice, Krishna Sharma, a Jaipur-based doctor, has found that several of his patients who practice blowing shankh report experiencing fewer symptoms.

Sharma teamed up with a few other researchers to test the efficacy of the practice.

His study included 30 people with moderate OSA, aged between 19 and 65, who were assessed between May 2022 and January 2024. They were randomly assigned to either practise blowing through a conch shell (16 patients) or to practise a deep breathing exercise (14 patients).

Compared to the people who practised deep breathing, those who practised shankh blowing were 34% less sleepy during the daytime.

They reported sleeping better and had four to five fewer apnoeas (where breathing stops during sleep) per hour on average. They also had higher levels of oxygen in their blood during the night.

"This was only a proof-of-concept study. We will be conducting a bigger study involving five hospitals in Rajasthan. We have received the Ethics Committee approval and will start recruiting patients from next month," Sharma told *DH*.

According to him, the way the shankh is blown is quite distinctive as it involves a deep inhalation followed by a forceful, sustained exhalation through tightly pursed lips.

Eight, including 2 children, charred to death in Gujarat car collision

SURENDRANAGAR, PTI: Eight people, including five women and two children, were charred to death after the car carrying them collided with an SUV, landed in a roadside ditch, and burst into flames in Gujarat's Surendranagar district on Sunday, police said.

The horrific accident occurred on a highway near Dedadara village in Wadhwan taluka at around 3.40 pm when the car was headed towards Surendranagar city from Kadu village.

Three individuals travelling in the SUV escaped with minor injuries, police said. Soon after the crash, the car landed in a roadside ditch and turned into a ball of fire, trapping all the occupants even as locals looked on helplessly.

"All eight persons in the car were charred to death. Three others travelling in the SUV escaped with minor injuries and were rushed to a hospital," said DIG, Surendranagar, Girish Pandya.

A police official said the fire reduced the car to a burnt shell, and local fire brigade personnel struggled to extricate the bodies.

The deceased individuals included two girls, aged 10 months and 13 years respectively, five women in the age group of 35-55 years, and the driver.

The accident caused a massive traffic jam on the highway.

MISCELLANY

◆ COMICS ◆

Blondie

HONEY! WHAT A NICE SURPRISE!!
WELL, I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU MUCH SINCE THE WEDDING SEASON BEGAN
KISS
YOU KNOW, IF MAVA NEEDS ANY HELP JUGGLING PASTRY...
NO, I THINK SHE'S GOT THIS!
5-13
DENIS LEBRUN & YOUNG MARSHALL

Hagar The Horrible

MY PARAKEET SWEETY PIE DIED TODAY!
I'M SORRY, BUT I'M SURE SWEETY PIE IS IN HEAVEN!
11-2
I'M SURE OF IT TOO! BUT HOW DID YOU KNOW MY NEW CAT'S NAME IS HEAVEN?
BRUNETTIN

Beetle Bailey

DID YOU FINISH THAT REPORT, MISS BUXLEY?
IT WILL BE DONE BY THE TIME YOU GET BACK FROM GOLF, SIR
ACTUALLY, I'LL BE DONE IN 15 MINUTES. AND THEN I'M OUTTA HERE!
GREG MORT WALKER
4/30

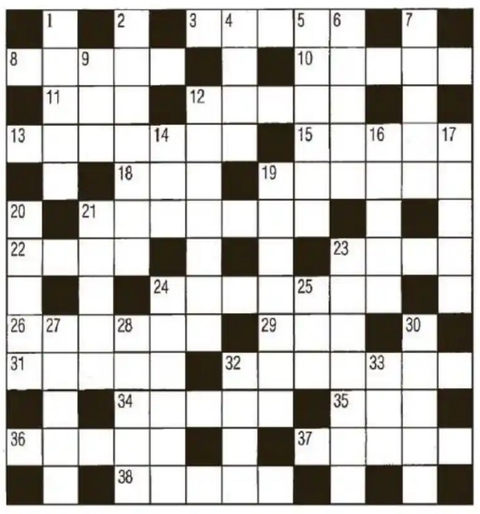
Peanuts

ALL RIGHT, BEFORE WE GO ON OUR HIKE, I'M GOING TO CALL THE ROLL
WOODSTOCK! CONRAD! OLIVIER! BILL!
A LITTLE REMINDER... WHEN I CALL THE ROLL, THE CORRECT ANSWER IS, "HERE!"
IT IS NOT, "40!"
SCHULZ

Marvin

SOMETIMES I FEEL LIKE I'M OVER THE HILL
SOMETIMES I FEEL LIKE I WENT OVER THE HILL...
...AND CRASHED AT THE BOTTOM OF THE OTHER SIDE
TOM ARMEY

CROSSWORD CHALLENGE 12227



ACROSS
3 Steam room (5)
8 As yet (2,3)
10 Stamp book (5)
11 A mine (3)
12 Player's first game (5)
13 Chef's room (7)
15 Attack (3,2)
18 Pigmeat (3)
19 Tranquil (6)
21 Plant type (7)
22 Revise (4)
23 Fruit (4)
24 Remainder (7)
26 Loves deeply (6)
29 Stripling (3)
31 Tribal badge or emblem (5)
32 Walks like a duck (7)
34 Anteroom (5)
35 Boy's name (3)
36 Celestial body (5)
37 Rage (5)
38 Stinks (5)

DOWN
1 Theme (5)
2 Short axe (7)
4 Middle East port (4)
5 Disgust, revulsion (6)
6 Change (5)
7 Japanese padded quilt (5)
9 Seizure (3)
12 Relegates (7)
14 Witch (3)
16 Native American tent (5)
17 Approaches (5)
19 Alike (7)
20 Gain access to (3,2)
21 Intolerant person (5)
23 Dessert course (7)
24 Distant (6)
25. Father (3)
27 One giving blood (5)
28 Allude (5)
30 Hereditary units (5)
32 Seven days (4)
33 Insulate (3)

CRYPTIC

ACROSS
3 Charlie's got the hump, the fathead! (5)
8 Car test – nothing's right! (5)
10 A place of rare fertility (5)
11 Lived in Iowa somewhere (3)
12 Swimming tutor possibly (5)
13 Appreciated being attacked? (4,3)
15 Uncharacteristic lapse in a flowery part (5)
18 Lout who'd love to start an affair? (3)
19 Nominally calm, she may give a sneer (6)
21 Aunt Sally's place? (3,4)
22 Warm up for a theatrical part (4)
23 Bit of a show – could be a riot! (4)
24 Be afraid to hold an article that's so very light! (7)
26 Comes up for air in order to complete the exercises (6)
29 Organ needing attention (3)
31 Harmonious name for a heavyweight (5)
32 A miners' group? (7)
34 A great source of taint (5)
35 Did the spadework (3)
36 An acquisition repeated (5)
37 Freed to leg it, possibly? (3,2)
38 Sounds a hoarse utterance! (5)

DOWN
1 It gets damp as it dries (5)
2 Failed to look not good but bulky (4,3)
4 Being German, he has endless education (4)
5 Pet rodent control operative (6)
6 Dad's got his head on right! (5)
7 City the Italian gent goes around (5)
9 The tawny parts are brown (3)
12 Sweet Evertonians oft upset over charges! (7)
14 Supporter of soccer people close down (3)
16 The man run out? (5)
17 Install only a replacement (3,2)
19 Being young, in the turbulent teens I got a kiss (7)
20 What, out East, can be made into biscuits (5)
21 Villain who never put a cigarette out (5)
23 Free, indeed, to be flouted (7)
24 Catlike, showing endless variation of feeling (6)
25 Bit of a shame he can't act (3)
27 Rogue tuned red (5)
28 It's an optional material! (5)
30 Roomy enough for one horse to go round another (5)
32 Performed some chorus angelically (4)
33 Head of the teachers' union? (3)

SOLUTIONS TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD 2641

CRYPTIC
ACROSS: 1 Bronte, 4 Free hand, 9 Artful, 10 Environs, 12 Overseas, 13 At will, 15 Type, 16 High and dry, 19 Wet blanket, 20 Swig, 23 Acquit, 25 Libretto, 27 Seafarer, 28 Cavort, 29 Timeless, 30 Chatty.

DOWN: 1 Bear out, 2 On the spot, 3 Truism, 5 Rank, 6 Existing, 7 Aioli, 8 Display, 11 Valiant,14 Phoenix, 17 Do without, 18 All in all, 19 Whatsit, 21 Ghostly, 22 Breach, 24 Qualm, 26 News.

◆SU-DO-KU-6678◆

9			6					7
5				2			4	
				7	4	5		
4			9			8		2
	6						7	
2		1			7			6
		3	7	5				
	9			1				3
6					3			8

very hard

SOLUTION TO 6677

6	3	2	9	5	4	7	8	1
9	5	7	2	8	1	6	4	3
4	8	1	7	6	3	2	9	5
1	9	6	5	2	8	3	7	4
2	7	3	1	4	9	8	5	6
8	4	5	6	3	7	1	2	9
7	1	8	4	9	6	5	3	2
3	2	4	8	1	5	9	6	7
5	6	9	3	7	2	4	1	8

To solve the puzzle: To solve a su-do-ku puzzle, every digit from1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows, and in each of the nine boxes.

SCRABBLE™

©2024 Mattel, SCRABBLE™ and SCRABBLE tiles, including S1 tiles, are trademarks of Mattel.

N_1 T_1 S_1 A_1 E_1 R_1 P_3	Triple Word Score	RACK 1
L_1 S_1 A_1 R_1 P_3 Y_4 A_1	Triple Word Score	RACK 2
S_1 E_1 I_1 H_4 R_1 P_3 W_4	Triple Word Score	RACK 3
R_1 O_1 A_1 I_1 V_4 T_1 B_3	Triple Word Score	RACK 4

PAR SCORE 225-235
by JUDD
FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in the Collins English Dictionary. JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

SATURDAY'S SOLUTION

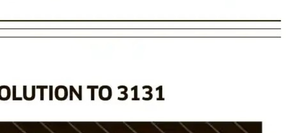
D_2 U_1 T_1 I_1 F_4 U_1 L_1	RACK 1 =	83
S_1 A_1 I_1 D_2 S_1 T_1	RACK 2 =	7
L_1 E_1 A_1 G_2 U_1 E_1	RACK 3 =	9
P_3 A_1 T_1 R_1 I_1 O_1 T_1	RACK 4 =	68
PAR SCORE 110-120	JUDD'S TOTAL	167

JUMBLE®

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LDIYO
ZUEGA
CLBTHO
LINAYM


Oof! You shouldn't have let me have that last piece.
You have no one to blame but yourself for eating too much.
2/10
WHEN HE COMPLAINED ABOUT HOW FULL HE WAS, HIS WIFE TOLD HIM TO STOP HIS ---

Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

©2025 Tribune Content Agency, LLC
All Rights Reserved.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Ans. here: _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: BOSSY KIOSK UNWIND PLIGHT
Answer: When it came to knowing exactly when to spray, the skunk had — GOOD "IN-STINKS"

HITORI-3132

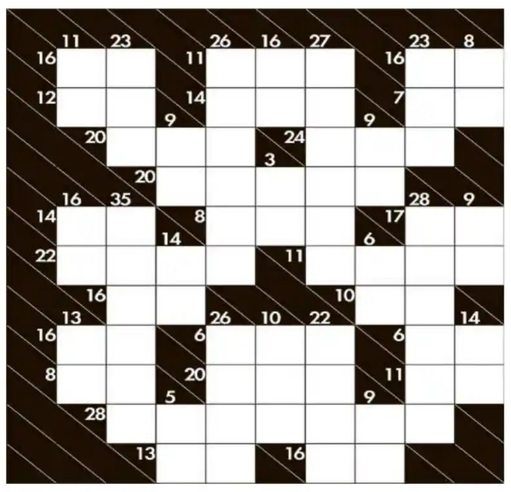
8	5	5	3	3	4	8	6
8	4	1	5	2	6	7	3
5	4	4	8	4	1	6	2
4	6	5	2	3	2	3	4
1	4	3	6	4	5	4	2
7	3	2	4	5	8	2	1
3	6	8	7	4	3	1	5
4	1	7	4	5	3	8	4

SOLUTION TO 3131

■	2	■	4	5	■	1	8
2	7	6	3	1	8	5	■
8	3	1	■	4	2	■	6
■	1	■	5	3	7	6	2
6	4	8	■	2	5	■	3
4	8	■	6	7	■	2	■
5	■	7	2	8	6	3	4
3	6	■	1	■	4	7	■

To solve the puzzle: Eliminate numbers by filling in squares so that remaining cells in that row or column do not repeat that number more than once. Filled-in cells cannot be horizontally or vertically adjacent. The un-filled cells must form a single component connected horizontally and vertically.

KAKURO- 3132



SOLUTION TO 3131

To solve the puzzle: Put a number from 1 through 9 in a cell. No zeros. A number in a cell separated by diagonal line tells the sum of numbers in consecutive cells at its right or downward. No number may appear more than once in consecutive cells.

SU DO KU X - 3650

■						8		■
2	1		4				■	
3		■			7	■		5
6	8		■		5			
	4		9	■				
			3		■	1		
	6	9			8	■		
	■						■	
■		2			6			■

SOLUTION TO 3649

3	4	7	1	5	8	6	2	9
6	8	9	2	4	3	7	1	5
5	1	2	9	7	6	8	4	3
4	6	1	7	3	2	9	5	8
2	5	3	8	6	9	4	7	1
9	7	8	4	1	5	3	6	2
8	9	5	6	2	4	1	3	7
1	3	4	5	8	7	2	9	6
7	2	6	3	9	1	5	8	4

To solve the puzzle: The objective is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column, each 3x3 box and each shaded diagonal line contains the same number only once.

*Data as of Aug 14

*Markets were closed on Friday due to Independence Day

TOP GAINERS		TOP LOSERS	
ETERNAL	5.83%	ADANI PORTS	-1.79%
TATA MOTORS	4.93%	BAJAJ FINANCE	-1.76%
M&M	3.79%	TATA STEEL	-1.71%
SUN PHARMA	3.52%	ITC	-0.72%
SBIN	2.75%	ICICI BANK	-0.64%

TOP GAINERS		TOP LOSERS	
APOLLO HOSP	10.40%	ADANI PORTS	-1.86%
ETERNAL	5.82%	BAJAJ FINANCE	-1.79%
CIPLA	5.26%	TATA STEEL	-1.68%
TATA MOTORS	4.88%	INDUSIND BK	-1.62%
ADANI ENT	4.75%	ITC LTD	-0.74%

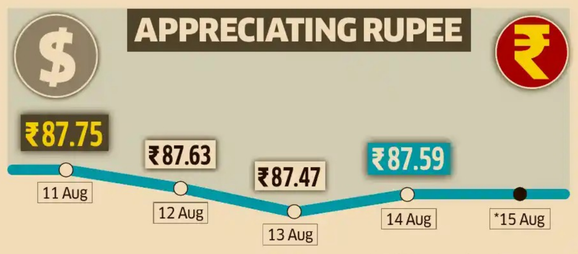
Sensex (52-week)

Aug 14, 2024	Aug 14, 2025	
79,105.88	80,597.66	1.89%

Nifty (52-week)

Aug 14, 2024	Aug 14, 2025	
24,143.75	24,631.30	2.02%

10-year Bond yield 6.40%



*Markets were closed on Aug 15 due to Independence Day

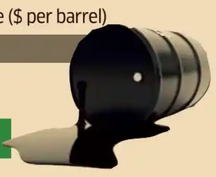
Exchange Rates*

Dollar	₹87.59	SGD	₹68.34
Pound	₹118.82	Yen (100 units)	₹59.81
Euro	₹102.38		

*Price at which banks sell

Crude Oil Rate ($ per barrel)

BRENT CRUDE
$66.85*
-1.48%
*Rate as of Aug 15



Bengaluru fuel pump price*

(Retail)
Petrol* ₹102.92 ₹0%
Diesel* ₹90.99 ₹0%

*Rates as of Aug 16 #Rate change compared with yesterday

Commodity watch

COFFEE

Category	Rate (Rs per 50 kg)*
Arabica Parchment	₹24000 - 25800
Arabica Cherry	₹13000 - 14800
Robusta Parchment	₹16000 - 16500
Robusta Cherry	₹10000 - 11300

*Rates as on Aug 12

Other Commodities

Silkworm cocoon (Rs per kg)*

Bivoltine (BV)	₹590
Cross Breed (CB)	₹552

*Average rates as on Aug 16

VC funding in startups slips 22% to $3.8 billion in 2025

Even a pick-up in the remaining months will not cover the lag: Experts

UMA KANNAN
BENGALURU, DHNS

Geopolitics, tariff wars and macroeconomic factors have stolen the wind off the sail for venture capitalists looking at Indian start-ups. According to data presented by market intelligence firm, Tracxn venture capital (VC) funding in Indian startups has shrunk nearly 22% this year (January to August 15) to $3.8 billion compared to $4.9 billion in the same period last year.

Experts are of the view that funding might pick up in the next few months but will still fall short of the quantum seen in 2024. In 2023, startups raised $7.4 billion and hit a record $20.5 billion in 2022.

"The current startup funding landscape in India is undergoing a period of recalibration. In the last 18–24 months, macroeconomic headwinds, global interest rate hikes, and cautious investor sentiment have slowed the pace of large-ticket funding rounds," said Roma Priya, founder of Burgeon Law, a legal firm working in the startup space.

Tariff-related considerations and inflationary pressures have further pushed investors to prioritise sustainable growth over aggressive scaling.

"However, this shift is not necessarily negative. It has encouraged founders to focus on unit economics, profitability, and operational efficiency. Investors today are looking for businesses that can demonstrate resilience, clarity of vision, and a path to steady revenue growth, even in uncertain environments," added Roma Priya, who advises and mentors startups, angel investors and VC/private equity funds.

Tracxn data showed that across sectors, consumer startups raised $42.5 billion between 2020 and August 12, 2025.

Last week, early growth investment fund Atomic Capital announced the final close of its maiden fund with a corpus of over Rs 400 crore, focused on early growth-stage Indian consumer, consumer-tech, and consumer-enabler startups. Sectors such as retail, fintech and food & agriculture technology raised $27.3 billion, $18 billion and $11.4 billion over the last 5.8 years.

"Early-stage funding remains relatively active, with seed and pre-Series A investments seeing healthy traction, particularly for innovative solutions that address real market gaps. Sectors such as climate tech, agritech, EV and clean mobility, healthtech, and SaaS for global markets are emerging as promising areas. These sectors benefit from strong policy push, rising consumer demand, and long-term scalability, making them attractive for both domestic and international investors," said the founder of Burgeon Law.

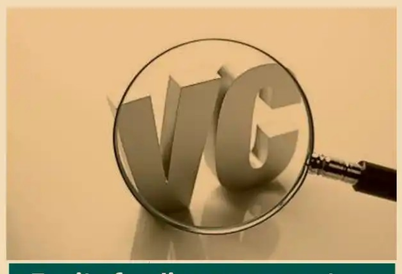
On the global VC funding front, Somdutta Singh, Serial Entrepreneur, Founder and CEO Assiduus Global said globally, VC funding in H1 2025 hit $205 billion, up 32% y-o-y, even though Q2 at $91 billion cooled from Q1's $114 billion. "About $40 billion in Q2 went to AI, roughly 45% of all venture dollars, and Q1 alone saw $66.6 billion in AI. By late July, AI funding had already surpassed all of 2024. Healthcare is holding its ground with $14.8 billion in Q2, while financial services pulled $10.8 billion, showing investors still like durable, regulated categories with clear monetisation," she said, adding India mirrors the tilt when it comes to AI funding.

GenAI ecosystem now comprises over 890 startups, growing 3.7x in the past year, with application focused ventures making up more than 83% of the landscape, according to Nasscom data.

Another sector which is also seeing growth is gifting startups. All-time funding in India stands at $159.4 million. While global gifting startups raised $1.73 billion between 2015 and 2025 (till August first week), and $66.2 million in 2025, in India, the sector recorded its highest funding activity in 2022 as it secured $63.9 million.

Neha Singh, co-founder, Tracxn, said, "The gifting and rewards sector has quietly evolved into a globally relevant, innovation-led category. Over the last decade, we've seen over $2.5 billion flow into gifting startups, not just to scale transactions, but to reimagine consumer experience, convenience, and loyalty. India, while still maturing, has built a strong base of resilient, founder-led businesses that are defining new benchmarks in digital-first branding and operational efficiency."

Experts said in this climate, founders should be pragmatic, focusing on building lean, adaptable business models, diversifying funding sources, and aligning their growth plans with evolving market realities.



Equity funding across sectors from January 1, 2020 to August 12, 2025

Sector	Funding
Consumer	$42.5 bn
Retail	$27.3 bn
Enterprise Applications	$24.7 bn
Fintech	$18 bn
Food & Agri tech	$11.4 bn

Equity funding in startups

Year	Funding
2020	$8.9 bn
2021	$36.3 bn
2022	$20.5 bn
2023	$7.4 bn
2024	$7.8 bn
2025 (till date)	$3.8 bn

Source: Tracxn

*Funding where at least one of the investors is a VC

BEL exports $106 million defence, non-defence products, services

Its top export markets are France, Spain, USA, UK, and Israel

MAHESH KULKARNI
BENGALURU, DHNS

Defence public sector company - Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) - saw its export of defence and non-defence products, systems, and services climb to $106.17 million during the year ended March 2025, an all-time high in its history. This marked a 14.18% rise over the Rs 92.98 million recorded in the previous year.

BEL's top export markets for its products and systems are France, Spain, USA, UK, Israel, Sweden, Mauritius, Armenia, Sri Lanka, Seychelles, and SEZs. The major products/systems exported include radar warning receiver, missile approach warning system, T R modules, Data Link II, coastal radar systems, mechanical parts, communication equipment, EO system, upgradation of sonar, software, services, etc.

"Increase in export sales was mainly due to the concerted efforts and new initiatives taken by the company. Continuous interactions with prospective foreign OEMs & Customers, proactive offering of products, systems and services, development of customised solutions, offerings of products in new defence and civilian segments, interactions with MEA and MoD undertaking and completing on-time delivery of projects have resulted in increased export sales," the company said in its annual report.

It is also making efforts towards providing new/customised solutions and efficient support/services to its customers.

During 2024-25, BEL has acquired export orders worth $54.16 million from countries like France, USA, Sweden, Sri Lanka, SEZ, etc. BEL has an export order book of $348.46 million as on April 1, 2025. Over the years, the company has established long term relationships with current and prospective customers.

Along with defence, BEL is also exploring opportunities for civilian products and solutions in developed and developing countries in the areas of artificial intelligence (AI), software applications, vacuum interrupters, civil aviation radars, critical infrastructure protection, solar power solutions, electronics system design & manufacturing services, etc.

The company is also focussing on various opportunities in offset business from foreign OEMs. It is also closely working and partnering with various major foreign aerospace and defence companies by offering products and systems to meet their specific requirements. The company has identified contract manufacturing (build to print and build to spec) and transfer of technology absorption for 'Make in India' as emerging export opportunities.

Further, efforts are put in to establish long-term supply chain relationships with Indian and global OEMs. In this regard, BEL has offered various products and services to major platform OEMs and their tier-I suppliers. It has also offered complete solutions globally in partnership with Indian OEMs. This has helped the company in leveraging partnership for co-development, co- production, transfer of technology, and similar arrangements with various OEMs to undertake manufacturing of their products at its facilities and utilisation of services not only for Indian programmes but also for their global requirements.

"Persistent efforts by the company have resulted in acquiring new customers from geographical locations such as the USA, Europe and SEZ - India. During the year, new proposals for radar, gun and tank upgrades, antenna with pedestals, radar sub-assemblies, fuses, avionics, shelters, communication equipment', avionics and EW systems, C4I etc. were submitted to global customers and foreign ministries. The company has established itself as a part of the global supply chain of Thales, SAAB, Elbit Systems, etc," the report added.

Textile ministry opens portal for PLI scheme till August 31

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Ministry of Textiles has reopened the portal for filing of fresh applications under the the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for textiles, covering man-made fibre (MMF) apparels, fabrics and technical textiles. The Portal will remain open till August 31, 2025, Man-made Fibre & Technical Textiles Export Promotion Council (MATEXIL) said in a statement.

The PLI Scheme is aimed at promoting large-scale investment, fostering innovation and sustainability, and enhancing India's global competitiveness in textiles. Eligible companies will receive incentives linked to incremental turnover generated through fresh investments and expanded production capacities.

Welcoming the announcement, Shaleen Toshniwal, Chairman, MATEXIL, said: "The reopening of the PLI application window is a very positive step, as it provides an opportunity for those textile companies who could not apply earlier. With incentives designed to reward growth and investment, this scheme offers Indian companies a unique chance to scale up operations and strengthen their global competitiveness."

Catalyst Brands opens its GCC in Bengaluru; hires 700 associates

BENGALURU, DHNS

Catalyst Brands, formed from the merger of JCPenney and SPARC Group, has officially launched its India operations under the new name Catalyst Brands Business Services Ltd. This marks a new chapter for the Bengaluru-based global capability centre, which has a portfolio of six of America's most recognised retail names: JCPenney, Aéropostale, Brooks Brothers, Eddie Bauer, Lucky Brand, and Nautica.

The Bengaluru GCC will now expand its capabilities to become a hub for the entire Catalyst portfolio. With deep expertise in IT, stores and payment systems, digital and ecommerce, supply chain, finance, merchandising, marketing, and data and analytics, the GCC in India will play a central role in driving efficiency, innovation, and growth for over 60 million customers worldwide, the company said in a statement.

"By transitioning to an integrated services model that supports multiple functions and capabilities, India is not just supporting Catalyst Brands—it's helping shape its future," said Marc Rosen, Chief Executive Officer, Catalyst Brands.

Formed in 2025, Catalyst Brands is a $9 billion global retail powerhouse with 1,800 stores and a strong presence across e-commerce and wholesale channels.

With over 700 associates and nearly a decade of operational excellence, the centre has been instrumental in building global technology and enterprise systems for JCPenney. As Catalyst Brands, it will take this impact further—removing redundancies, enabling faster collaboration, and shaping the future of a multi-brand retail ecosystem.

"India has long been essential to our success. Now, as we unite six heritage brands under one roof, our Bengaluru team will be key to streamlining operations, embedding standardisation, and driving operational excellence across the board," said Kevin Harper, Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer, Catalyst Brands.

Foxconn's Bengaluru unit commences operation with iPhone 17 production

NEW DELHI, PTI: Taiwanese electronics giant Foxconn's Bengaluru factory, its second-largest manufacturing unit, has commenced operation with production of iPhone 17 recently at a small scale, sources aware of the development said.

Foxconn is the largest manufacturer of iPhones, and the second-biggest facility outside China in Devanahalli near Bengaluru, being set up at an investment of $2.8 billion (about Rs 25,000 crore).

"Foxconn Bengaluru unit has commenced operation with the production of iPhone 17. This is in addition to the production of iPhone 17 at its Chennai unit," a source aware of the development said.

An email query sent to Apple and Foxconn elicited no reply on the development.

The production had faced a brief interruption after hundreds of Chinese engineers went back abruptly.

However, Foxconn has been able to get experts from various destinations, including Taiwan, to address the gap. Apple plans to increase iPhone production to 60 million units this year from about 35-40 million units in 2024-25.

Safeguard duty on imports of certain steel items for 3 years recommended

NEW DELHI, PTI: The commerce ministry's arm, DGTR, has recommended final imposition of a safeguard duty on imports of certain flat steel products for three years to protect domestic manufacturers from sudden jump in the inbound shipments.

The duty was recommended by the directorate general of trade remedies (DGTR) in its final findings of a probe initiated on a complaint by the Indian Steel Association.

Based on the preliminary findings, the government in April has already imposed a provisional 12% safeguard duty for 200 days.

Now DGTR has recommended a 12% duty in the first year, 11.5% in the second, and 11% in the third year.

PERILOUS PLIGHT

Coimbatore's motor pump makers deeply challenged by Gujarat peers

E.T.B. SIVAPRIYAN
COIMBATORE, DHNS

Its thriving textile industry may have earned it the moniker - Manchester of South India - but Coimbatore has also long established itself as the epicentre of motor pump making in the country. The first electric motor in India was manufactured here in 1937. However, the city is fast losing its leadership in this sector and is now reduced to accounting for 40 percent of the pump sets made in the country.

Beleaguered by rising costs and challenges in sourcing raw materials, in the past decade, the industry comprising a sizeable number of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), has also had to contend with stiff competition emerging from Gujarat, which has managed to corner 35% of the pump production in India.

The growth of Coimbatore's pump industry has been fed by availability of a skilled workforce and robust supply chain. Its pumps have been put to both household and agricultural use. Some manufacturers even found export markets for their products.

But in the past decade, Gujarat has been stealing a march over this meticulously developed industry, armed with 20% cheaper raw materials and government incentives, including lower power tariffs and interest subsidies.

For example, industrial power tariff in Tamil Nadu are fixed at Rs 8.50 per unit. In Gujarat it is Rs 7 per unit. The western state also offers special night tariffs for continuous industries. Tamil Nadu's peak hour charges are fixed.

Coimbatore pump making unit.
DH PHOTO/E.T.B. SIVAPRIYAN

"This has caused a significant market shift toward Gujarat. Micro and small units are worst hit as they cannot sustain business in the more expensive Coimbatore," J James, President of the Tamil Nadu Association of Cottage and Micro Enterprises (TACT), told *DH*.

Though around 600 motor pump manufacturing units exist on paper in Coimbatore, many have quietly gone defunct in recent years, especially post-pandemic, industry sources said.

"The motors made in Gujarat are at least 20% less expensive than those produced in Coimbatore. A decade ago, Gujarat's motors were of lower quality, but they have improved, increasing sales," he added.

James also noted that many Coimbatore manufacturers are considering relocating, enticed by incentives offered by Gujarat and states such as Madhya Pradesh, which seek to attract new industries.

The foundry sector, closely linked to the pump industry, also faces challenges including high electricity costs, expensive raw materials, lack of working capital, and shortage of skilled labour.

K Veluswami, Chairman, Institute of Indian Foundrymen, Coimbatore Chapter, told *DH* that raw materials are scarce in Coimbatore and materials for manufacturing pump sets, like copper and castings, are at least 20% cheaper in Gujarat. Margins have dropped from 25% to around 8–9%.

"Micro foundries are especially affected by the introduction of advanced high-pressure moulding machines, which reduce reliance on skilled manpower," he noted. "Many cannot adopt this technology due to lack of capital."

R Rajkumar, who has run a pump motor manufacturing unit in Coimbatore for 20 years, said that although their pumps are "the best in terms of quality," they cannot compete outside Tamil Nadu due to cheaper pumps from Gujarat.

"Castings are more readily available in Gujarat because of large ship-breaking yards providing scrap metals. It is at least 20% more expensive for small foundries here to purchase castings. Steel price fluctuations also pose a major challenge," he said.

Rajkumar also urged the state government to set up small industrial parks like Gujarat's for pump set manufacturers, so they do not have to pay high rents that are also subject to GST.

Veluswami said the government should support both foundry and pump industries by mandating large companies to procure a portion of raw materials and products from MSMEs. "Norms are so stringent that MSMEs cannot supply under the PM-KUSUM scheme. There should be concessions so we can coexist with large firms," he added.

TOP PICKS

The data is sourced from Motilal Oswal Financial Services Limited

HDFC Life
(ID: HDFCLIFE)
BUY
Upside +15%**
Last close ₹788
Target: ₹910*

HAL
(ID: HAL)
BUY
Upside +28%**
Last close ₹4,544
Target: ₹5,800*

Indian Hotels
(ID: INDHOTEL)
BUY
Upside +17%**
Last close ₹771
Target: ₹900*

Ultratech Cement
(ID: ULTRACEMCO)
BUY
Upside +19%**
Last close ₹12,299
Target: ₹14,600*

ICICI Bank
(ID: ICICIBANK)
BUY
Upside +17%**
Last close ₹1,428
Target: ₹1,670*

* Target price has been calculated on the basis of fundamentals ** Upside refers to more value stock is expected to generate than its current price

Why OPD-ready health plans are essential in monsoon

AMITABH JAIN
COO, STAR HEALTH AND ALLIED INSURANCE

Monsoons bring on a predictable surge in infectious diseases, making proactive healthcare planning essential for families nationwide. The country has long struggled with vector- and water-borne illnesses, but the seasonal spike in cases places extraordinary pressure on both public health infrastructure and household finances.

The National Centre for Vector-Borne Disease Control (NCVBDC) shows that as of March 2025, India had already reported over 16,000 dengue cases, a worrying early trend for the year. Dengue, malaria, chikungunya, and Japanese encephalitis collectively killed 285 people in 2024 alone, according to NCVBDC records. Dengue cases increased by 83% between 2019 and 2023, while deaths from the disease nearly tripled during the same period. Malaria, while showing progress in some regions, remains a persistent threat, with 209,640 cases recorded up to October 2024.

Waterborne diseases such as cholera, typhoid, and gastroenteritis also see a marked increase during this period. Contaminated water sources and poor sanitation contribute to the spread of these illnesses, especially in urban slums and rural areas. Respiratory infections and skin ailments become more common as well, driven by high humidity and fluctuating temperatures.

A critical gap in traditional health insurance is the lack of coverage for outpatient care. Most health insurance plans focus on hospitalisation, leaving routine doctor visits, diagnostic tests, and minor treatments uncovered. This leaves families financially vulnerable during periods of high disease prevalence, when repeated outpatient department (OPD) visits are common. Recognising this vulnerability, insurers are increasingly offering OPD coverage as part of comprehensive health plans, reflecting a growing understanding of the importance of outpatient care in managing overall health and preventing more serious conditions.

OPD coverage is a financial game-changer for families navigating the disease season. It enables access to preventive care and early intervention, reducing the risk of complications and more costly treatments. Early diagnosis and treatment can prevent minor illnesses from escalating into serious conditions requiring hospitalisation. OPD benefits also provide family budget protection and financial predictability, covering routine healthcare expenses such as doctor consultations and diagnostic tests. Many OPD plans include coverage for routine health screenings, helping families stay ahead of health risks.

When selecting an OPD plan, it is important to look for the following essential features:

- Coverage for doctor consultations, diagnostic tests, and pharmacy expenses
- A wide network of clinics and diagnostic centres to ensure easy access to care
- Simplified claim processes and cashless benefits to enhance convenience
- Teleconsultation options that allow families to consult doctors from home and reduce the risk of exposure to infections
- Coverage for routine tests and health check-ups to support preventive care and early diagnosis, further reducing the overall healthcare burden

This combination of features helps families manage their healthcare needs efficiently and with greater peace of mind.

In conclusion, OPD-ready health plans are a strategic tool for managing India's seasonal health risks.

Know the ripple effects of crude oil prices on equities

It does not relate merely to sectors consuming oil products

RAJ VYAS

India is the third-largest importer of crude oil and one of the biggest consumers globally. This highlights how deeply the Indian economy and its industries depend on crude oil. Since most of India's oil demand is met through imports, fluctuations in global oil prices can significantly impact the overall economy.

If you invest in the stock market, it's important to track not just market movements but also crude oil prices regularly. In this article, we break down how oil prices affect the economy, the markets, and ultimately, your portfolio.

India's crude oil imports and global impact

In July 2025, India imported 4.55 million barrels of crude oil per day. Russia remained the largest supplier with 1.40 million barrels, followed by Iraq at 0.91 million and Saudi Arabia at 0.70 million barrels. The UAE and Kuwait also contributed significantly. Imports from the US saw a sharp 23% increase compared to June.

Although overall crude imports dipped slightly due to refinery maintenance during the monsoon season, Russian oil still accounted for more than 36% of India's total imports.

US President Donald Trump recently imposed additional tariffs on India for buying Russian oil. Few have considered the global impact if India stopped importing Russian oil altogether. It is said that if both India and China were to stop buying crude from Russia, global oil prices could shoot past $150 per barrel, affecting not just India but also major economies like the United States and China.

How rising oil prices affect the Indian economy

Since India imports around 85% of its crude oil, higher global prices have far-reaching consequences:

- **Rising inflation:** Higher oil prices push up the cost of petrol, diesel, and cooking gas, making transportation and manufacturing more expensive. This in turn drives up the prices of goods and services. Currently, retail inflation in India stands at 1.55%.
- **Fiscal deficit:** The government often provides subsidies on fuels like LPG to shield consumers from rising costs. When oil prices climb, either subsidies increase or taxes are reduced, both of which strain public finances. The fiscal deficit is already at 4.8% of GDP.
- **Rising import bills:** Costlier crude means a bigger import bill, widening the current account deficit. If exports don't grow enough to offset this, the gap worsens, weakening investor confidence and the rupee.
- **Rupee depreciation:** More expensive oil imports increase the demand for US dollars, putting pressure on the rupee. For example, in June 2025, the rupee fell to 86.72 against the dollar after crude prices surged.
- **Reduced consumer spending:** When fuel costs rise, households tend to cut back on non-essential expenses like dining out or travel, hurting industries such as retail, tourism, and consumer goods.

Transmission to Indian equities

Movements in crude oil prices ripple through the stock market, affecting sectors differently depending on whether prices rise or fall:

- **Paint:** Uses crude-derived inputs like titanium dioxide and solvents, which make up ₹40% of raw material costs. Higher crude prices squeeze margins.
- **Tyre:** Relies on carbon black, a crude derivative. Rising prices increase production costs and reduce profits.
- **Aviation:** Jet fuel makes up over a third of airline operating costs. Higher prices lead to either reduced margins or pricier tickets.
- **FMCG:** Packaging materials like HDPE are crude-based, forming 15–20% of costs. Price hikes hit margins.
- **Cement:** Uses petcoke, a crude by-product, as fuel. Price rises push up production expenses.
- **Oil marketing companies (OMCs):** When crude prices rise under regulated pricing, they cannot always pass on costs, squeezing profits.
- **Upstream oil & gas firms:** Producers like ONGC benefit from higher prices as they sell at global rates.
- **Automobiles:** Higher fuel prices encourage a shift toward EVs. Automakers with strong EV portfolios may gain.
- **Chemicals & petrochemicals:** These companies use crude derivatives as feedstock, sometimes making up half their revenue. Rising prices directly pressure margins.

Wrapping up

Understanding the drivers of global crude oil prices can help investors make informed decisions. Sharp price spikes often trigger panic selling across sectors, not just oil-linked ones, as fears of an economic slowdown rise.

Geopolitical shocks can cause sudden market swings, while long-term price changes from shifts in demand, policy, or energy trends create deeper impacts. India's gradual shift toward green energy may eventually reduce its vulnerability to oil shocks, but traditional sectors remain exposed.

Diversification, particularly away from oil-sensitive sectors, can help investors manage these risks. With the right knowledge and a sound plan, market volatility from crude oil cycles can be navigated successfully.

(The writer is Vice President-Research, Teji Mandi)

THE WEEK AHEAD

All eyes on geopolitical negotiations underway

Macro economic factors seen remaining favourable

SIDDHARTHA KHEMKA

US President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin after their meeting, at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, in Anchorage, Alaska, on Saturday.

This week, investor attention will be on key geopolitical developments, including the Russia–US talks held over the weekend, which are likely to keep equity markets range-bound. Amid lingering concerns over elevated US tariffs on Indian goods, the Indian government is set for a flurry of high-level engagements with China and Russia within a single week. The Chinese Foreign Minister will visit India on August 18 for talks under the Special Representatives (SR) mechanism, followed by the External Affairs Minister's visit to Russia on August 21. These meetings could pave the way for a possible interaction between the Indian and Chinese Prime Ministers at the SCO Summit in Tianjin on August 31.

Adding to the optimism, news reports suggest the Indian Prime Minister may visit the US next month to attend the UN General Assembly, raising hopes of bilateral discussions. Meanwhile, the Commerce Minister has indicated that the India–U.S. trade deal could be concluded by Sep-Oct 2025.

S&P's upgrade India's sovereign credit rating last week after nearly 19 years, reflects expectations of policy continuity and sustained infrastructure investment, supporting long-term growth. Also, India's retail inflation declined to an 8-year low of 1.55% in July (vs 2.10% in Jun'25), which improved sentiments for rate sensitive industries.

Last week, Nifty50 ended with a gain of 268 points at 24,631 (+1.1%), snapping a six-week losing streak. Sentiments improved on softer-than-expected retail inflation and optimism over Russia–US peace talks. Broader indices also advanced, with the Nifty Midcap100 and Smallcap100 up 0.9% and 0.7% respectively. Among sectors, pharma was the top gainer, rising 3.5% on the back strong results from multiple pharma companies. Nifty Auto and PSU banks followed with gains of over 2% each.

Meanwhile, FMCG were the sole loser, declining marginally by 0.4%.

In the capital market segment, demat additions inched up MoM to 3m in Jul'25 (2.5m in Jun'25). IPO activity gained significant momentum with 13 IPOs in July, the highest since Sep'24. AMC stocks are likely to be in focus as the net inflow into equity mutual funds surged 81% to Rs 42,672 crore in July as per latest AMFI data. We expect that a stable growth trajectory for volumes and rising retail participation should support the performance of market intermediaries.

On the macro front, retail inflation fell to an eight-year low of 1.55% in July (vs 2.10% in June), largely driven by lower food inflation. A favourable base effect from September to December should keep inflation contained going ahead as well. This cycle is working in India's favour at a time when inflationary pressures from tariffs dominate global discussions. The anticipated slowdown in global growth should help keep international commodity prices in check, partly offsetting the impact of higher tariffs.

The all-India cumulative rainfall as of early August was 2% above the long period average (LPA). Overall, the June–Julymonsoon remains favourable, supporting farm output and rural demand.

(The writer is Head of Research, Wealth Management, Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd)

FPIs dump Rs 21,000 cr equities in first half of Aug

NEW DELHI, PTI: Foreign investors offloaded Indian equities worth nearly Rs 21,000 crore in the first half of August, pressured by US-India trade tensions, lacklustre first-quarter corporate earnings, and a weakening rupee.

With this, the total outflow by Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) in equities reached the Rs 1.16 lakh crore mark so far in 2025, according to data with the depositories.

The FPI activity will be influenced by the action on the tariff front ahead.

The recent easing of tensions between the US and Russia, coupled with the absence of fresh sanctions, suggests that the proposed 25 per cent secondary tariff on India is unlikely to take effect after August 27, a clear positive for the market, Vaqarjaved Khan, CFA - Senior Fundamental Analyst, Angel One, said.

Also, S&P has upgraded India's credit rating from BBB- to BBB, a move that could further boost FPIs' sentiment, he added.

According to the depositories data, foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) withdrew a net sum of Rs 20,975 crore from equities this month (till August 14).This came after a net withdrawal of Rs 17,741 crore in July.

"The sustained outflows are being driven primarily by a confluence of global uncertainties. Heightened geopolitical tensions and ambiguity surrounding the interest rate trajectory in developed economies, have contributed to a risk-averse sentiment," Himanshu Srivastava, Associate Director - Manager Research, Morningstar Investment Research India, said.

Mcap of five of top 10 firms climbs Rs 60,675.94 cr

NEW DELHI, PTI: The combined market valuation of five of the top-10 most valued firms increased by Rs 60,675.94 crore last week, with State Bank of India and HDFC Bank emerging as the lead gainers in line with a positive trend in equities.

In a holiday-shortened last week, Sensex climbed 739.87 points or 0.92%, and the Nifty edged higher by 268 points or 1.10%.

From the top-10 pack, Reliance Industries, HDFC Bank, Bharti Airtel, State Bank of India and Infosys saw an addition in their valuation, while Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), ICICI Bank, Hindustan Unilever Ltd, Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) and Bajaj Finance faced erosion from their market capitalisation (mcap).

The valuation of State Bank of India jumped Rs 20,445.82 crore to Rs 7,63,095.16 crore, the most among the top-10 firms.

The mcap of HDFC Bank surged Rs 14,083.51 crore to Rs 15,28,387.09 crore.

Infosys added Rs 9,887.17 crore, taking its valuation to Rs 6,01,310.19 crore. The mcap of Bharti Airtel surged Rs 8,410.6 crore to Rs 10,68,260.92 crore.

Reliance Industries' valuation went up by Rs 7,848.84 crore to Rs 18,59,023.43 crore.

However, the mcap of LIC tumbled Rs 15,306.5 crore to Rs 5,61,881.17 crore.

Bajaj Finance faced an erosion of Rs 9,601.08 crore to Rs 5,35,547.44 crore, while ICICI Bank's valuation declined by Rs 6,513.34 crore to Rs 10,18,982.35 crore.

FINANCIAL LEGACY

Building family wealth with strategic planning & shared vision

ROHIT BERI

Savvy families understand that managing wealth together is about much more than just accumulating assets; it is about establishing a lasting legacy, maintaining family harmony, and ensuring future generations are prepared for financial stewardship. Successful wealth management within a family context requires a combination of strategic planning, robust governance, and open communication.

Here are some of the key strategies and practices employed by savvy families to manage wealth collectively:

1. Establishing a shared vision and values

A crucial first step for savvy families is defining a shared mission statement or "family constitution." This document outlines the family's core values, goals, and intentions regarding their wealth.

- **Defining wealth beyond money:** Savvy families recognize that wealth includes not only financial assets but also human and intellectual capital (skills, capabilities, education) and spiritual wealth (shared values and purpose).
- **Aligning Goals:** By openly discussing and documenting shared values, families can ensure that financial decisions and investments align with their collective purpose, whether it's supporting specific causes, investing in education, or preserving a family business.

2. Implementing effective family governance

As families and their wealth grow, a formal structure for decision-making becomes essential. Family governance provides a framework for managing shared assets, resolving conflicts, and guiding future generations.

- **Family council:** Many families establish governing bodies like a Family Council. This group provide a platform for regular meetings, allowing family members to discuss financial matters, define roles, and make collective decisions.
- **Defining roles and responsibilities:** Clear governance structures help delineate roles for family members, distinguishing between those involved in the family business, those responsible for managing investments, and those involved in philanthropic activities.
- **Focus on accountability and transparency:** Effective governance promotes transparency in financial matters and ensures accountability, which is vital for building trust and reducing disputes.

3. Prioritising financial education and communication

One of the most significant challenges in intergenerational wealth transfer is ensuring the next generation is prepared to manage the inherited assets. Savvy families prioritise financial literacy and open communication from an early age.

- **Age-appropriate financial education:** Families should introduce financial concepts, such as budgeting, saving, and investing, early on. This can involve practical activities, formal education programs, and hands-on experience managing a portion of the family assets.
- **Open and constructive Dialogue:** Regular family meetings about finances help demystify wealth and encourage open discussions. This reduces uncertainty and fosters a sense of responsibility among younger generations.
- **Mentorship and stewardship:** Savvy families emphasise the concept of stewardship—the responsibility to manage resources not just for the current generation but for future ones. They mentor the next generation to understand their role in preserving and growing the family legacy.

4. Strategic estate and wealth transfer planning

Strategic planning is essential to ensure the efficient transfer of wealth while minimizing taxes and mitigating potential conflicts.

- **Comprehensive estate planning:** This includes drafting wills, establishing trusts, and designating beneficiaries. Trusts, such as generation-skipping trusts and spendthrift trusts, are often used to protect assets, control distribution, and prevent financial mismanagement.
- **Tax efficiency and diversification:** Families work with financial and tax professionals to implement strategies that minimise tax liabilities, diversify investments across various asset classes (stocks, bonds, real estate, alternative investments), and adapt to changing economic and regulatory landscapes.
- **Succession planning:** For families with businesses, a clear succession plan is vital. This involves identifying and mentoring future leaders to ensure a smooth transition of ownership and continued business success.

5. Adapting and evolving

The financial landscape, tax laws, and family dynamics are constantly changing. Savvy families recognize the need for flexibility and regular reassessment of their wealth management strategies.

- **Regular review:** Wealth plans should be treated as living documents that are periodically reviewed and updated.
- **Seeking professional advice:** Families often engage with financial advisors, legal professionals, and family office specialists who can provide specialized expertise and help navigate complex financial and legal challenges.

By combining a strong foundation of shared values, structured governance, ongoing education, and strategic planning, savvy families are better positioned to preserve their wealth and ensure a lasting legacy across generations.

(The writer is CEO and CIO, ArthAlpha)

US keeps an eye on India-Pakistan situation every single day: Rubio

NEW YORK/WASHINGTON, PTI: The US keeps "an eye" on what's happening between India and Pakistan "every single day" as ceasefires can fall apart very quickly, Secretary of State Marco Rubio said.

Marco Rubio

"... the only way to have a ceasefire is for both sides to agree to stop firing at one another. And the Russians just haven't agreed to that. Beyond that, I would say that one of the complications about ceasefires is they have to be maintained, which is very difficult. I mean, every single day we keep an eye on what's happening between Pakistan and India, what's happening between Cambodia and Thailand," Secretary of State said.

"Ceasefires can fall apart very quickly, especially after a three-and-a-half-year war (in Ukraine) like what we're facing now, but I don't think anyone disagrees that the ideal here, what we're aiming for is not some permanent ceasefire. What we're aiming for here is a peace deal so there's not a war now and there's not a war in the future," Rubio said in an interview to NBC News Meet The Press.

Pak Army chief rules out change in country's leadership

ISLAMABAD, PTI: Pakistan Army chief Asim Munir has ruled out any change in the leadership, describing rumours about the removal of President Asif Ali Zardari as completely false and against both the government and the establishment, a media report said on Saturday.

EU leaders to join Zelenskyy-Trump meet

US envoy Witkoff floats security guarantee for Ukraine

LONDON/KYIV, REUTERS

European Commission president Ursula von der Leyen shakes hands with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in Brussels, where he will participate in a meeting of EU leaders on Sunday. REUTERS

European leaders will join Volodymyr Zelenskiy to meet Donald Trump in Washington, they said on Sunday, seeking to shore up Zelenskiy's position as the US president presses Ukraine to accept a quick peace deal to end Europe's deadliest war in 80 years.

Trump is pressuring Zelenskyy to strike an agreement after meeting Russian President Vladimir Putin in Alaska. Trump emerged from the meeting more aligned with Moscow, favoring a peace deal over a ceasefire. Zelenskyy and Trump are expected to meet on Monday.

"If peace is not going to be possible here and this is just going to continue on as a war, people will continue to die by the thousands ... we may unfortunately wind up there, but we don't want to wind up there," Secretary of State Marco Rubio said on Sunday.

Trump posted on social media that there would be "BIG PROGRESS ON RUSSIA," without giving details.

Sources briefed on Moscow's thinking told Reuters that the US and Russian leaders have discussed a potential deal in which Russia would give up small pockets of occupied territory in exchange for Ukraine ceding more fortified eastern regions and freezing front lines elsewhere.

Top Trump officials hinted that Ukraine's eastern Donbas region—already mostly under Russian control—could be part of the deal. A defensive pact offering Article 5-like protection, in place of Nato membership, was also floated.

Rubio warns of 'new sanctions' if no peace deal

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio on Sunday warned of "consequences," including the potential imposition of new sanctions on Russia, if no peace deal is reached on Ukraine, ahead of a key meeting at the White House, reports AFP."If we're not going to be able to reach an agreement here at any point, then there are going to be consequences," he said.

"We were able to win the following concession — that the United States could offer Article 5-like protection," Trump envoy Steve Witkoff said Sunday, calling it the first time Russia had agreed to such a framework.

Article 5 of Nato's founding treaty enshrines the principle of collective defense, the notion that an attack on a single member is considered an attack on them all. However, that may not be enough to convince Kyiv. Ukraine's borders were supposedly protected after it gave up its nuclear weapons in 1994, but Russia annexed Crimea in 2014 and launched a full-scale invasion in 2022. The war has lasted over three years, with more than 1 million casualties.

European leaders — including German Chancellor Friedrich Merz, French President Emmanuel Macron, and UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer— met Sunday to coordinate support for Zelenskyy and push for solid security guarantees that include US involvement.

They hope to avoid a repeat of Zelenskyy's last Oval Office visit in February, when Trump and Vice President JD Vance publicly rebuked him as ungrateful.

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, Finnish President Alexander Stubb, and Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni are also expected in Washington.

Actor Terence Stamp, star of Superman films, dies at 87

Terence Stamp

LONDON, AFP: British actor Terence Stamp, a leading man of 1960s cinema before reinventing himself in a series of striking roles -- including as Superman villain General Zod -- has died aged 87, UK media cited his family announcing Sunday.

"He leaves behind an extraordinary body of work, both as an actor and as a writer that will continue to touch and inspire people for years to come," media quoted the family saying.

Stamp, exploded on to the screen in the 1960s as a leading man, even then sometimes playing troubled characters. At one point, he seemed to specialise in playing brooding villains

Later still, he broke out of that typecasting to play a partying transgender woman in "The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert".

From Pier Paolo Pasolini's "Theorem" to a villain's role in one of the "Star Wars" films, the handsome leading man captivated audiences in both art house films and Hollywood blockbusters.

The London actor from a working-class background, born on July 22, 1938, had his first breakthrough in in Peter Ustinov's "Billy Budd".

His performance as a dashing young sailor hanged for killing one of his crewmates, earned him an Oscar nomination and a Golden Globe for Best New Actor.

Israeli army says war plan 'focusing' on Gaza City

'We will continue to strike until decisive defeat of Hamas'

JERUSALEM, AFP

The Israeli army's chief of staff said Sunday the military was pressing ahead with plans for the next phase of its Gaza offensive, with a focus on Gaza City.

"Today we are approving the plan for the next phase of the war," Lieutenant General Eyal Zamir said during a field visit to the Palestinian territory, according to an army statement.

"We will maintain the momentum of Operation 'Gideon's Chariots' while focusing on Gaza City. We will continue to strike until the decisive defeat of Hamas," he said.

The large-scale operation in Gaza, dubbed "Gideon's Chariots" by the Israeli army, began in mid-May.

"We will continue to strike until the decisive defeat of Hamas, with the hostages always at the forefront of our minds," Zamir added.

In response Hamas said the plans would result in "a new wave of extermination and mass displacement".

The Palestinian militant group also condemned the proposals a "a major war crime" which it said reflected Israel's "disregard for international and humanitarian law".

Earlier this month, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu laid out his plan, approved by his security cabinet, for a new phase of operations in Gaza.

Israel has said it is preparing to take control of Gaza City and neighbouring refugee camps with the stated aim of defeating Hamas and freeing the hostages kidnapped during the October 7, 2023 attack that sparked the 22-month war.

Zamir said Israel's ongoing offensive had "achieved its objectives", that "Hamas no longer possesses the same capabilities", and the military had dealt the Palestinian militant group a "severe blow".

"The current campaign is not a pinpoint one; it is just another layer in a long-term and planned strategy," he added.

WORLD AT A GLANCE

Workers dig out human remains at the Khasfa site near the northern Iraqi city of Mosul, where authorities have begun excavating a mass grave believed to contain thousands of victims of the IS, on Sunday. AFP

Misri holds talks with Nepal's top leadership on boosting ties

Vikram Misri

▸ Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri on Sunday called on Nepal Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli and President Ramchandra Paudel and discussed ways to further strengthen bilateral ties across various sectors, reports PTI from Kathmandu.

Misri arrived here earlier in the day for a two-day visit to the Himalayan nation on the invitation of his Nepalese counterpart Amrit Bahadur Rai.

During his meeting with Oli, which took place at the Prime Minister's Office at Singhdurbar, matters of mutual interest were discussed to further deepen bilateral relations. Misri "reaffirmed the deep civilizational ties and strong India–Nepal partnership, and discussed ways to further strengthen cooperation across various sectors," the Indian embassy here said in an X post.

The foreign secretary separately called on President Paudel and conveyed "greetings of theIndian leadership, apart from briefing President on progress in bilateral ties.

US, EU 'split' over UN peacekeeping

▸ The future of UN peacekeepers in Lebanon has split the United States and its European allies, raising implications for security in the Middle East and becoming the latest snag to vex relations between the US and key partners like France, Britain and Italy, reports AP from Washington.

At issue is the peacekeeping operation known as UNIFIL, whose mandate expires at the end of August and will need to be renewed by the UN Security Council to continue.

It was created to oversee the withdrawal of Israeli troops from southern Lebanon after Israel's 1978 invasion, and its mission was expanded following the month-long 2006 war between Israel and the militant group Hezbollah. The multinational force has played a significant role in monitoring the security situation in southern Lebanon.

Neeraj qualifies for Diamond League final in Zurich

NEW DELHI, PTI: Star Indian javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra has qualified for the Diamond League 2025 Final in Zurich, Switzerland scheduled to be held on August 27 and 28.

Chopra, the reigning world champion, didn't participate in Diamond League Meeting in Silesia, Poland, on August 16. His participation in the Brussels leg on August 22 is also not yet known. However, it doesn't matter as the Indian ace has already booked his berth in the DL Final, as per the latest standings released after the Silesia leg on Saturday.

With 15 points from two DL meetings, from one title and one second-place finish, the two-time Olympic medallist has already sealed his qualification for the winner-takes-all finale.

Chopra is placed at third spot behind Keshorn Walcott (17) and Julian Weber (15) in the standing.

Warholm wins on return

CHORZOW (POLAND), AFP: Karsten Warholm rebounded from a two-month training camp in the form of his life at the Silesia Diamond League, a timely showing that comes just weeks ahead of the world championships in Tokyo.

The Norwegian stormed the 400m hurdles in Saturday's meet in the Polish city of Chorzow in an astonishing 46.28 seconds.

It was the third fastest time ever run over the distance, topped only by Warholm's own world record of 45.94 and American Rai Benjamin's 46.19.

TENNIS CINCINNATI OPEN

Alcaraz vs Sinner, again!

Spaniard ousts ailing Zverev; Italian subdues qualifier Atmane

CINCINNATI, AFP

Italy's Jannik Sinner smashes one past Terence Atmane of France during their Cincinnati Open semifinal clash on Saturday. AFP

World No. 1 Jannik Sinner and hot rival Carlos Alcaraz will face off in a major final for the fourth time this season after both booked straight-set wins into the title match at the ATP-WTA Cincinnati Open on Saturday.

Defending champion Sinner ruthlessly subdued 136th-ranked qualifier Terence Atmane 7-6 (7/4), 6-2 while Spanish second seed Alcaraz defeated an ailing Alexander Zverev, who was suffering badly from the 32 Celsius heat and humidity, by 6-4, 6-3.

Alcaraz and Sinner have played for trophies this season in Rome, Roland Garros and Wimbledon, with the Italian winning their most recent at the All England Club last month.

Sinner, celebrating his 24th birthday, ended Frenchman Atmane's dream run and will now try to become the first man since Roger Federer in 2014-15 to win back-to-back titles.

Sinner, tuning up for the US Open in his first tournament since winning Wimbledon, hasn't dropped a set en route to the final.

"It's a very, very tough challenge every time you play a new opponent," Sinner said. "In the later stages of the tournament,the pressure is on, they deserve to be there."

Alcaraz will also be playing in his second Cincy final after losing to Novak Djokovic in 2023.

The Spaniard increased his ATP season match win lead to 53 in a year of five titles.

Alcaraz broke Zverev once in the opening set to claim it before the German, who is diabetic, began feeling poorly and took a medical timeout off court after the third game of the second set.

"We started well with good rallies, a good level," Alcaraz said. "All of a sudden he felt bad and I was thinking more about how he was feeling instead of playing good tennis."

India name squad for SAFF U-17 Women's Championships

NEW DELHI, PTI: India under-17 women's team head coach Joakim Alexandersson on Sunday named a 23-member squad for the SAFF U-17 Championship to be played in Thimphu, Bhutan from Aug 20-31.

Alexandersson, who historically guided the India U-20s to their first AFC U-20 Women's Asian Cup qualification in two decades earlier this month, will now lead the U-17s as they gear up for the SAFF Championship in the lead-up to the AFC U-17 Women's Asian Cup Qualifiers, which will be held in October in Kyrgyz Republic.

In a new format that will provide the players more game time, the SAFF U-17 Women's Championship will feature four teams -- India, Bhutan, Nepal, and Bangladesh -- competing in a double round-robin league.

Squad: Goalkeepers: Munni, Surajmuni Kumari, Tamphasana Devi Konjengbam.
Defenders: Alena Devi Sarangthem, Alisha Lyngdoh, Binita Horo, Divyani Linda, Elizabed Lakra, Priya, Ritu Badaik, Taniya Devi Tonambam.
Midfielders: Abhista Basnett, Anita Dungdung, Beena Kumari, Bonifilia Shullai, Julan Nongmaithem, Pritika Barman, Shveta Rani, Thandamoni Baskey.
Forwards: Anushka Kumari, Nira Chanu Longjam, Pearl Fernandes, Valaina Jada Fernandes.

LONG WAIT ENDS

The Karnataka senior women's water polo team are all smiles after clinching a bronze medal at the 78th Senior National Aquatics Championships 2025 (Water Polo & Diving) in Ahmedabad on Sunday. Prachetha R Rao scored four goals while Nithya C added three more to power the state's girls to a 9-6 win over West Bengal in the third-place contest. The bronze ended Karnataka senior team's decade-long medal drought at the event.

Karnataka falter against Odisha

BENGALURU, DHNS/PTI: Karnataka conceded two quick fire goals to crash to a 1-2 defeat against Odisha in the Division A of the Junior Men's National Hockey Championship in Jalandhar on Sunday.

After two goalless quarters, Nitesh Sharma put Karnataka in front with a goal in the 37th minute.

However, a slip-up midway through the third quarter cooked their goose.

Ritik Lakra levelled the proceedings for Odisha in the 50th minute before Aryan Xess slotted in the winner a minute later.

Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana also secured victories in Division A while Chandigarh and Delhi earned promotion to the elite division.

Haryana registered a dominant 5-0 victory over Manipur in Pool C. Sunil (15th), Chirag (27th), Navraj Singh (50th), Rahul (56th) and Ansh Kamboj (59th) were the goalscorers.

Himachal and Assam were relegated to Division C.

Gukesh returns to familiar territory

ST LOUIS (US), PTI: World Champion D Gukesh **(in pic)** returns to classical chess after a brief hiatus to face a star-studded field at the Sinquefield Cup starting Monday while R Praggnanandhaa will eye a podium finish in the fifth leg of the Grand Chess Tour to strengthen his overall fifth-place standing.

While many argue that the field feels incomplete without World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen, the Norwegian Grandmaster has openly admitted that he no longer enjoys classical chess.

Without Carlsen, the GCT was announced and this is the culmination point wherein the players would qualify for the grand finale slated later this year.

Praggnanandhaa, meanwhile, has already cemented his credentials by qualifying for next year's Candidates'.

Bengaluru Blasters' Chethan LR smashes one to the boundary during his match-winning 74 against Mangalore Dragons on Sunday.

Chethan strikes for Blasters

MYSURU, DHNS

Mangaluru Dragons finally met their match in the Maharaja Trophy as Chethan LR's half-century guided the Bengaluru Blasters to a three-wicket victory over the table-toppers.

With the match reduced to 19 overs a side, Lochan Gowda and Sharath BR provided an explosive start to lift the Dragons to 174/6, but two-wicket hauls from Prateek Jain (2/45) and Mohsin Khan (2/26) kept them in check.

The Blasters top order provided the early impetus. Openers Chethan (74) and Rohan Patil (26) propelled them to 69/1 by the end of the Powerplay. Patil was trapped LBW by Macneil Noronha in the fifth over but Chethan continued his red-hot form feasting on the bowling on his way to a 30-ball fifty. After Mayank Agarawal's (20, 9b) ouster, Bhuvan Raju joined Chethan to navigate the middle overs with a stand of 55 runs in 35 balls.

Brief scores: Mangaluru Dragons: 174/6 in 19 overs (Lochan Gowda 49, Sharath BR 45, Shivaraj S 33 n.o.; Prateek Jain 2-45, Mohsin Khan 2-26) lt to Bengaluru Blasters: 175/7 in 18.3 overs (Chethan LR 74, Rohan Patil 26; Kranthi Kumar 2-28) by 3 wkts via VJD method.
The second match between Mysore Warriors and Shivamogga Lions was abandoned due to rain.

Pyrite wins Nizam's Gold Cup

HYDERABAD RESULTS

Pyrite, trained by S Waheedh and ridden by Sandesh, won the Nizam's Gold Cup, the feature event of the Hyderabad races on Sunday.

1. Doncaster Plate - 1100M: NRI High Power (Ravinder Reddy) Akshay Kumar 1; Emerald Touch (Neeraj Rawal) 2; Foxy Girl (HM Akshay) 3; Shreshhtha (Mukesh Kumar) 4; Wb: 2, 7-3/4, 5-1/4L. T: 1:07.45. TB: D Netto. Fav: NRI High Power.

2. Gadwal Plate -1800M: Take A Breath (Narender Reddy) Ajay Kumar 1; Silver Arrow (Sai Kumar) 2; Federer (Ajeeth Kumar) 3; Nkalanzinzi (Ashhad Asbar) 4; Wb: Dist, 2-3/4, 2L. T: 1:55.18. TB: Shashikanth. Fav: Take A Breath.

3. Colonel B Santosh Babu Memorial Cup - 2000M: Dapper Look (Teja Gollapudi) Sai Kumar 1; Black Dust (Ajay Kumar) 2; Freedom Touch (Neeraj Rawal) 3; Dapper Look (Akshay Kumar) 4; Wb: 3-1/2, 1, 4-1/2L. T: 2:06.76. TB: Prasad Raju. Fav: Dapper Look.

4. Brown Jack Plate - 1100M: Taaliyah (Md Sultan) Deepak Singh 1; Most Beautiful (Akshay Kumar) 2; Bien Pensant (Surya Prakash) 3; Noorian (Ajay Kumar) 4; Wb: 1, 2-1/4, 2L. T: 1:10.02. TB: SSF Hassan. Fav: Always Special.

5. Telangana And Andhra Sub Area Cup - 1600M: Nonpariel (Rajendran) Mukesh Kumar 1; Get Lucky (Ekram Alam) 2; Secret Saint (Trevor Patel) 3; Dali's Destiny (Yash Narredu) 4; Wb: 3-1/2, Hd, 6-1/2L. T: 1:39.22. TB: D Netto. Fav: Secret Saint.

6. Nizam's Gold Cup - 2000M: Pyrite (Ketan Wakkar) Sandesh 1; Victor Hugo (G Vivek) 2; Rise And Reign (Yash Narredu) 3; Galahad (Trevor Patel) 4; Wb: Hd, Shd, Hd. T: 2:05.24. TB: S.Waheed. Fav: Pyrite.

7. Karimnagar Plate (Div I) - 1200M: Cherish The Lady (Teja Gollapudi) Sai Kumar 1; Fashion Icon (Akshay Kumar) 2; Swiss Girl (Ismail) 3; Sargent (HM Akshay) 4; Wb: Nk, 4-1/4, 1/2. T: 1:15.60. TB: Prasad Raju. Fav: Chersh The Lady.

Bengaluru dividends

I race: Rs 14w; 10, 14, 20p; Fc: Rs 30; Q: Rs 30; Shp: Rs 24; Thp: Rs 40; Tri: Rs 96 & 53; Ex: Rs 1,309 & 792.

II race: Rs 23w; Rs 11, 13, 12p; Fc: Rs 72; Q: Rs 37; Shp: Rs 37; Thp: Rs 34; Tri: Rs 106 & 54; Ex: Rs 234 & 129.

III race: Rs 26w; 11, 18, 1p; Fc: Rs 224; Q: Rs 132; Shp: Rs 44; Thp: Rs 31; Tri: Rs 543 & 223; Ex: Rs 733 & 196.

IV race: Rs 82w; 25, 14, 16p; Fc: Rs 370 ; Q: Rs 118; Shp: Rs 37; Thp: Rs 43; Tri: Rs 1,118 & 580; Ex: Rs 11,397 & 12,211.

V race: Rs 32w; 11, 11, 10p; Fc: Rs 238; Q: Rs 64; Shp: Rs 31; Thp: Rs 55; Tri: Rs 207 & 49; Ex: Rs 735 & 555.

VI race: Rs 21w; 13, 16, 12p; Fc: Rs 75; Q: Rs 59; Shp: Rs 32; Thp: Rs 35; Tri: Rs 323 & 133; Ex: Rs 259 & 87.

VII race: Rs 20w; 12, 11, 42p; Fc: Rs 46; Q: Rs 24; Shp: Rs 32; Thp: Rs 91; Tri: Rs 579 & 237; Ex: Rs 1,637 & 669.

Jackpot: Rs 6,018 (88). **Runner-up:** Rs 982 (231). **I treble:** Rs 1,160 (8). **II treble:** Rs 163 (84).

Romantic Grey for main event

HYDERABAD SELECTIONS

Leo Desilva-trained Romantic Grey, to be ridden by Afroz Khan, will garner the maximum support in the upper division of the Independence Cup, the feature event of the Hyderabad races to be run over a sprint at the races on Monday. The first race starts at 12:55 pm.

1. Red Rum Plate - 1400M: Certainity 1, Betsie 2, Gusto's Baby 3.

2. Devarkonda Cup (Div II) - 1100M: Zuza 1, Bold Beauty 2, Politics 3.

3. Independence Cup (Div II) - 1200M: Sangreal 1, Warwick 2, Deccan Spirit 3.

4. Fair Haven Plate - 1400M: Walking Thunder 1, Brilliant Lad 2, Star Forever 3.

5. Devarkonda Cup (Div II) - 1100M: Dontblockmyway 1, Double Bubble 2, Dashing Charm 3.

6. Ascot Plate - 1200M: Berrettini 1, Torchbearer 2, Espionage 3.

7. Independence Cup (Div I) - 1200M: Romantic Grey 1, Shadow Fax 2, Shadow Baby 3.

8. Karimnagar Plate (Div II) - 1200M: Lego 1, Inderdhanush 2, Shooting Star 3.

Day's best: Zuza. **Jackpot:** 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8. **I treble:** 1, 2 & 3. **II treble:** 3, 4 & 5. **III treble:** 6, 7 & 8.

FOOTBALL EPL

Gunners find the opening fire

Calafiori nets lone goal for Arsenal in win over Man United; Palace hold Chelsea

MANCHESTER, AFP

Manchester United's expensively-assembled new forward line drew a blank as Arsenal began their quest for the Premier League title by grinding out a 1-0 win at Old Trafford on Sunday.

Riccardo Calafiori scored the only goal after the Italian defender pounced on a huge mistake by United's stand-in goalkeeper Altay Bayindir.

United have splashed out £200 million ($271 million) on new forwards to remedy a lack of punch in the final third.

Despite promising debuts, Matheus Cunha and Bryan Mbeumo failed to find the net, while substitute Benjamin Sesko could not make Arsenal pay for not pursuing their interest in the Slovenian.

After finishing second for the past three seasons, the pressure is on Arsenal boss Mikel Arteta to deliver the club's first league title in 2003/04.

Earlier in the day, Chelsea suffered a Club World Cup hangover as they were lucky to escape with a 0-0 draw against Crystal Palace to open their Premier League campaign on Sunday.

Palace were denied an early opener when Eberechi Eze's free-kick was ruled out by a VAR review for Marc Guehi obstructing the Chelsea wall.

Arsenal's Riccardo Calafiori (third from left) capitalised on an error from Manchester United's stand-in goalkeeper Altay Bayindir (second from right) to score their winning goal at Old Trafford on Sunday. REUTERS

New Chelsea signing Estevao came closest to snatching a winner, but the newly-crowned world champions were blunt in attack against a well-organised Palace defence.

The Eagles key duo, Guehi and Eze, started despite mounting speculation that the England internationals are set to join Liverpool and Tottenham, respectively.

Eze thought he had opened the scoring with a blistering free-kick that had too much power for Robert Sanchez. The goal was disallowed for Guehi's role in creating a gap by man-handling Moises Caicedo into the Chelsea wall.

Chelsea's demolition of European champions Paris Saint-Germain to win the Club World Cup last month had raised the Blues' hopes they can challenge for a first Premier League title since 2017.

Nottingham win 3-1

Nottingham Forest made light of manager Nuno Espirito Santo's pre-season fears with a dominant 3-1 win over a much-changed Brentford.

Chris Wood struck twice, either side of Dan Ndyoe's debut goal for Forest, on a nightmare afternoon for new Brentford boss Keith Andrews. The Bees have lost their manager, captain and top scorer in the off-season.

Igor Thiago's first goal for the club from the penalty spot late on was the only consolation for the visitors.

Arsenal, runners-up for the last three seasons, begin their quest for a first title in 22 years away at a revamped Manchester United.

Haaland fires

Manchester City signalled their intent to take back the Premier League title as Erling Haaland struck twice in a 4-0 win at Wolves on Saturday to begin their campaign.

New signings Tijjani Reijnders, who was the star of the show at Molineux, and Rayan Cherki were also on target to give Guardiola hope his side will be back in the title race this season.

Results: Chelsea: 0 drew with Crystal Palace: 0; Nottingham Forest: 3 (Wood 5th, 45th+2, Ndoye 42nd) bt Brentford: 1 (Thiago 78th-pen); Arsenal: 1 (Riccardo Calafiori 13th) bt Manchester United: 0. **On Saturday:** Wolves: 0 lt to Manchester City: 4 (Haaland 34th, 61st, Reijnders 37th, Cherki 81st).

Barcelona start with a bang

Defending champs stroll to a 3-0 win over Mallorca

MADRID, AFP

Spanish champions Barcelona opened their La Liga campaign on Saturday with an island cruise as they played almost an hour against nine men on their way to a 3-0 victory in Mallorca.

Barcelona's second-half stroll did not please coach Hansi Flick.

"They're three important points, but I didn't like the match," he told broadcaster Movistar. "After going two goals up and following Mallorca's two red cards, I think the team only gave 50 percent and I didn't like that."

"Playing at 50 or 60 per cent is not possible against nine players."

Two of Barcelona's Ballon d'Or nominees combined to put the visitors ahead after seven minutes, Lamine Yamal crossing for Raphinha to head in.

Yamal played a key role in the second goal after 23 minutes. Mallorca defender Antonio Raillo headed away the teenager's shot and then fell to the ground.

As the referee waved play on and Mallorca failed to clear, the ball fell to Ferran Torres. He fired home from the edge of the box.

Manu Morlanes was one of two Mallorca players booked for dissent as they told the referee he should have stopped the game. Ten minutes later, Morlanes received a second yellow for a challenge on the rampant Yamal and was sent off.

In the evening's late games Valencia drew 1-1 at home to Real Sociedad. Diego Lopez gave the hosts a 57th-minute lead, Takefusa Kubo replied three minutes later.

In Vitoria, hosts Alaves scored a 2-1 victory over promoted Levante.

Results: On Saturday: Mallorca: 0 lt to Barcelona: 3 (Raphinha 7th, Ferran Torres 23rd, Yamal 90+4); Alaves: 2 (T Martinez 36th, Tenaglia 92nd) bt Levante: 1 (Toljan 68th); Valencia: 1 (Lopez 57th) drew with Real Sociedad: 1 (Kubo 60th).

Barcelona's Lamine Yamal (right) sets off on a celebratory run after scoring against Mallorca during their La Liga clash on Saturday night. REUTERS

Healy powers Aus A to consolatory victory

BRISBANE, PTI

Star wicketkeeper-batter Alyssa Healy blazed away to an unbeaten 137 as Australia A picked up consolatory nine-wicket win in the inconsequential third women's ODI against India A here on Sunday.

India had already sealed the three-match series 2-0 after a two-wicket win in the second game on Friday, having also edged the opener by three wickets.

Opting to bat first, India rode on opener Shafali Verma's 52 and wicketkeeper Yastika Bhatia's 54-ball 42 to post 216 before being bowled out in 47.4 overs.

Australia A skipper Tahlia McGrath was the pick of the bowlers with 3/49 in eight overs.

Chasing 217, the spotlight belonged to Healy (137 not out off 84 balls), who made light work of the target, punishing the Indian bowlers to all parts of a ground named after her uncle and former Australian wicketkeeping great Ian Healy.

Blending brute power with trademark flair, the Australian national team captain, returning after foot and knee injuries, tore into the bowlers as she peppered the boundary 23 times and cleared it thrice, including a straight six to seal the game.

She was dropped twice -- on 7 and 49 -- and made full use of the reprieves, powering Australia to victory in just 27.5 overs

The keeper-batter found an able partner in Tahlia Wilson, who played with composure and fluency for her 59. The duo added 137 for the opening stand. Wilson eventually fell to Radha Yadav.

Earlier, Shafali was at her free-flowing best, striking a polished half-century studded with seven boundaries while Nandini Kashyap (28) played the supporting role. The duo gave India a steady start, adding 86 for the opening wicket.

But the introduction of McGrath turned the tide as she removed Shafali to spark a collapse that saw Kashyap and Tejal Hasabnis (1) depart in quick succession, leaving India wobbling at 89/3.

Brief scores: India A: 216 all out in 47.4 overs (Shafali Verma 52, Yastika Bhatia 42; Sianna Ginger 2-50, Tahlia McGrath 3-40, Ella Hayward 2-43, Anika Learoyd 2-16) lt to Australia A: 222/1 in 27.5 overs (Alyssa Healy 137 n.o., Tahlia Wilson 59). **Result:** Australia A won by 9 wkts. **Series:** India A won series 2-1.

Australia A's Alyssa Healy smashed an unbeaten 137 of 85 balls to power her side to a thumping 9-wicket win over India A in Brisbane on Sunday. PTI FILE PHOTO

No Babar, Rizwan in Pakistan's Asia Cup squad

LAHORE, AFP: Pakistan left out their top stars Babar Azam and Mohammad Rizwan from the T20 squad named on Sunday for the Asia Cup and a warm-up tri-series beginning this month against Afghanistan and the United Arab Emirates.

Azam and Rizwan have been star performers in the shortest format in the past but have not played since December, which head coach Mike Hesson put down to other players performing well.

"We know what a fine player Babar (Azam) is," said Hesson.

"Babar has been asked to improve in certain areas, like taking on spin and in terms of his strike rate and he is working hard on these things.

"The players we have are performing well and having a positive impact," said Hesson.

Pakistan squad: Salman Agha (c), Saim Ayub, Fakhar Zaman, Sahibzada Farhan, Hasan Nawaz, Salman Mirza, Mohammad Haris, Mohammad Nawaz, Shaheen Shah Afridi, Haris Rauf, Hasan Ali, Hussain Talat, Sufiyan Muqeem, Abrar Ahmed, Khushdil Shah, Faheem Ashraf, Mohammad Wasim

Shuttlers Tushar, Shaina take home State-ranking titles

BENGALURU, DHNS: Bengaluru Urban's Tushar Suveer and Shaina Manimuthu lived up to the top billing by registering contrasting wins to take the men's and women's titles respectively at the Yonex-Sunrise Karnataka State Junior and Senior ranking badminton tournament in Shivamogga on Sunday.

In the men's final, the fourth seed Tushar lost the first game but then regrouped to pull off a come-from-behind 19-21, 21-8, 21-13 victory to be crowned the champion.

In the corresponding women's final, Shaina came all guns blazing to script an upset by beating the first seed Ashwaty Varghese 21-5, 21-9 to finish top of the podium.

Results (all finals, prefix denotes seedings): Men's: Singles: 4-Tushar Suveer (Bengaluru Urban) bt Nicholas Raj (Bengaluru Urban) 19-21, 21-8, 21-13. **Doubles:** Kushal Raj/Prakash Raj bt Aditya Diwakar/Vaibhav BS (Bengaluru Urban) 21-11, 21-15. **Women's: Singles:** Shaina Manimuthu (Bengaluru Urban) bt 1-Ashwaty Varghese (Bengaluru Urban) 21-5, 21-9 **Doubles:** 8-Ashwini Bhat K/Shikha Gautam (Bengaluru Urban) bt Amrutha Pramuthesh/Suhina Roy, (Bengaluru Urban) via walkover. **Mixed doubles:** 3-Prakash Raj/Karnik Sree bt Kishal Ganapathy/Rashmi Ganesh (Mysuru) 21-15, 21-16 . **U-19: Boys: Singles:** 8-Harshad Shadish (Bengaluru Urban) bt Hardik Divyansh (Mysuru) 21-12, 21-19 . **Doubles:** Amith Raj Natraj/Hardik Divyansh (Mysuru) bt 2-Chris Baptist (Bengaluru Rural)/Sumith AR (Bengaluru Urban) 18-21, 21-15, 21-17 . **Girls: Singles:** Shaina Manimuthu (Bengaluru Urban) bt Lakshya Rajesh (Mysuru) 21-12, 21-16. **Doubles:** 2-Ashwaty Varghese (Bengaluru Urban)/Lakshya Rajesh (Mysuru) bt Ishika Baruah Kashyap/Tanika Mohan (Bengaluru Urban) 21-14, 21-18. **Mixed doubles:** 2-Nischal S/Suhina Roy (2) (Bengaluru Urban) bt Chris Baptist/Mounitha AS (Bengaluru Rural) 27-25, 21-19.

Winners of the Yonex-Sunrise Karnataka State Junior and Senior ranking badminton tournament pose with their spoils.

Goalkeeper Fabio equals record for most games played

RIO DE JANEIRO, AFP: Fluminense goalkeeper Fabio has equalled the record held by former England international Peter Shilton for most competitive appearances in men's football, playing in his 1390th match in a Brazilian league game on Saturday.

The 44-year-old shot-stopper, part of the Fluminense team that reached the semi-finals of the Club World Cup in the United States, started Fluminense's 2-1 win over Fortaleza in Brazil's Serie A to move level with Shilton.

"I have to thank everyone who is part of my life, my father, my mother, my sisters, my friends, my wife... I try to be a good human being. The important thing is to help my teammates. I am grateful, but without God nothing would be possible," said Fabio.

IN BRIEF

Dhariwal wins bronze

Karnataka's Siddhant Dhariwal won a bronze medal in the U-15 boys' event of the WTT Youth Contender Amman 2025 in Amman on Sunday, reports DHNS.

Dhariwal went down to Abdulaziz Al Abdulla of Qatar 12-14, 5-11, 9-11 (0-3) in the semifinal.

Result: Boys' U-15 Semifinals: Siddhanth Dhariwal lt to Abdulaziz Al Abdulla 12-14, 5-11, 9-11

Marquez wins 9th title

Marc Marquez chalked up his ninth win of the season at the Austrian MotoGP on Sunday to stretch his lead at the head of the championship standings, reports AFP from Spielberg, Austria.

Anahat retires hurt in NSW Bega Open final

BEGA (AUSTRALIA), PTI: Young Indian squash player Anahat Singh was forced to retire hurt against her Egyptian opponent Habiba Hani in the final of the NSW Squash Bega Open on Sunday.

The top-seeded 17-year-old Indian retired when she was trailing 1-2 and was down 4-10 in the fourth game against second seed Habiba Hani. The final scoreline read 9-11, 11-5, 11-8, 10-4 retd in favour of the Egyptian.

Anahat, playing her maiden World Events final, took the opening game 11-9, but Hani bounced back to win the next two 11-5 and 11-8. Anahat had overcome a strong challenge from Egypt's Nour Khafagy to enter the final on Saturday.

The double Asian Games bronze medallist, had won the semifinal contest 3-2 (10-12, 11-5, 11-5, 10-12, 11-7) in 54 minutes.

◆ ON TV ◆

FOOTBALL

EPL: Leeds United vs Everton (**12:30 am, Tuesday**). **LIVE** on **Star Sports Network, JioHotstar.**

La Liga: Elche vs Real Betis (**12:30 am, Tuesday**). **LIVE** on **FanCode.**

TENNIS

Cincinnati Open: Final (**12:30 am, Tuesday**). **LIVE** on **Sony Sports Network.**

CRICKET

Maharaja Trophy: Mysore Warriors vs Bengaluru Blasters (**3:15 pm**), Gulbarga Mystics vs Hubli Tigers (**7:15 pm**). **LIVE** on **FanCode.**

Aditi shoots season's best round

PORTLAND (OREGON), PTI: Aditi Ashok (in pic) sunk in seven birdies to produce her best round of the season -- a card of 65 -- that carried her into the top-5 after the third round of The Standard Portland Classic on the LPGA Tour, here.

Aditi, who had played only 12 events on the Tour before this week, has had only one top-10 this season -- a tied-9th position at Riviera Maya Open at Mayakoba.

Starting birdie-birdie on the first two, she added three in a row from the sixth to the eighth. Then came another back-to-back birdie pair on the 13th and he 14th for a 7-under 65 after 69-70 on the first two days.

Gurleen Kaur (65-68-70) at 13-under was fourth and Savannah Grewal (69-67-72) was eight-under and Tied-25.

Ahlawat T-28

Veer Ahlawat played a steady third round of one-under 70 on a moving day to reach tied-28th at the Danish Golf Championship at the Fureso Golf Klub in in Copenhagen.

Earlier, Ahlawat had rounds of 73-68 and is now two-under for three rounds.

Thomas slips

Rayhan Thomas carded 2-under 69 on the third day as he slipped down to tied 45 on the leaderboard at the Albertsons Boise Open on the Korn Ferry Tour in Boise, Idaho.

Ganguly, Tirkey line up to bid Vece adieu

KOLKATA, PTI

Dr. Vece Paes, an Olympic bronze medallist and pioneering sports medicine expert, was laid to rest here on Sunday as former India cricket captain Sourav Ganguly and Hockey India president Dilip Tirkey joined scores of mourners in his funeral procession.

In a poignant moment, young players lined up on either side of the road and raised their sticks to pay their last respects while his hearse made its way into the Maidan tent. Officials of Hockey Bengal, the oldest association for the sport in the country, were also present.

His son Leander Paes was inconsolable, even as Ganguly joined some officials in comforting the tennis legend by placing his arms around him and offering words of support in his hour of grief. The mass was held at St Thomas' Church, Middleton Row.

Leander Paes (second from right) with Hockey India president Dilip Tirkey (right) during his father Vece Paes' funeral in Kolkata on Sunday. X

Among those present were former India cricketer Arun Lal and Trinamool Congress leader Derek O'Brien, who joined the bereaved family, friends and members of the sporting fraternity in bidding farewell to the player who was part of the Indian team that won the bronze medal at the 1972 Olympics.

The funeral services were followed by the interment at the Lower Circular Road Cemetery on AJC Bose Road. At the graveside, flowers were laid and candles lit, creating an atmosphere that was filled with emotion.

His final journey began with a stop at the Hockey Bengal tent where Tirkey was present to pay his last tributes. Flags of his former club East Bengal, from where he started his journey, and Mohun Bagan, with whom he won nine Beighton Cup titles, and Hockey Bengal were draped over the coffin.

Printed and published by B A Ravi on behalf of The Printers (Mysore) Private Ltd, at The Printers (Mysore) Private Ltd, Plot nos. 7-12, Kumbalgodu Industrial Area, Bengaluru - 560 074. Executive Editor: K V Subramanya (Responsible for selection of news under the PRB Act). Editorial Office: 75, M.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 001. E-mail: editor@deccanherald.co.in. Phone: 080-45557333, Editorial: 080-45557279/080-45557280, Circ: 080-45557204, Advt: 080-45557163/080-45557164. Also printed at Hubballi-Dharwad, Mangaluru, Kalaburagi, Davangere, Mysuru and Hosapete. © All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without permission is prohibited. RNI No 3608/57. Registered, Regn. No: KRNA/BGE/1027/2023-2025, posted at Bangalore PSO, Mysore Road, Bengaluru - 560 026. Website: www.printersmysore.com

IT'S OK TO STARE.

Take this beauty home. The just-launched 'BE 6 Pack Two', feels every bit like our top-end Pack Three and it comes at a friendly price of just ₹21.90 Lakh* and an easy EMI of ₹39 454.00#. Yes, we see you smiling! Here are some of the top-end features you get in the Pack Two:

Race-ready cockpit with dual 31.24 cm screens • Premium leatherette interiors
Sonic Studio 16-speaker Harman Kardon system with Dolby Atmos • Level 2 ADAS
LED Lamps, R19 Wheels • Fixed-glass Infinity Roof • 5-star Bharat NCAP safety rating

On a single charge, the 79 kWh battery delivers a real-world range of 500 kmˆ, while the 59 kWh battery offers 400 kmˆ. Which means you only have to charge it weekly, plus it comes with a lifetime battery warranty###. How's that for peace of mind.

PRICE STARTS AT
₹21.90 Lakh*
Easy EMI of **₹39 454.00#**

40% depreciation benefit for businesses## • 0% Road Tax^^ • ₹30 000.00 exchange benefit**

SCAN TO LOCATE A DEALERSHIP NEAR YOU

BE 6 PACK TWO | DELIVERIES NOW OPEN

*Ex-showroom starting price of BE 6 Pack Two 59 kWh without charger & installation cost #Special EMI scheme by MMFSL with balloon payment. ##Consult your financial advisor for eligibility. ###For First Registered Owner. Applicable for Private Registration only. In case of ownership change, HV battery warranty shall be 10 years or 2 00 000 km, whichever is earlier from the first ever date of vehicle delivery. ˆAs per internal tests in city conditions with AC ON. Actual results may vary. ARAI MIDC P1+P2 Certified Range: 59 kWh: 557 km, 79 kWh: 683 km. ^^Valid for EVs in Karnataka priced below ₹25 lakh, Ex-showroom. As for above 25 Lakh, 10% road tax is applicable. **Terms & conditions apply

For detailed terms & conditions, visit www.mahindraelectricsuv.com/tnc.html

ELECTRIC ORIGIN SUVs
mahindra